

# THE TIMES

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## Monday

**How they brought the snow to Stockholm:** When film director Michael Apted decided to recreate Moscow in Sweden for the screen version of the best-selling novel *Gorky Park*, he did not expect to face the problem of a lack of snow. One way out of the difficulty was to cover parts of Stockholm in Epsom Salts. On the *Spectator* page on Monday, Chris Mosser reveals what happened.

The subject of *The Times Profile* is Lord Harlech, a many-sided man who looks back with nostalgia to the *Swinging Sixties* and says: "I find it very odd that now we're all back in pinstriped suits."

## UK exports at record £5.28 billion

Britain had a trade surplus of £376m in March with exports rising to a record £5.28 billion. The March surplus, which comes after deficits of £138m in February and £491m in January, was greeted by Lord Cockfield, the Trade Secretary, as confirmation of the Confederation of British Industry's optimistic forecasts. Page 11

## Fanani hands in resignation

The Italian Government resigned last night and Signor Amintore Fanani, the Prime Minister, handed his resignation to President Pertini. Today, the President will begin talks with political parties but a general election looks likely in June. Earlier story, page 5

## Kohl puzzled

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany described as "incomprehensible" the cancellation of a visit to Bonn by the East German leader, Hery Erich Honecker. Relations between the two countries have deteriorated recently. Page 5

## Brixton 'errors'

Mr Geoffrey Dear, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said that police officers committed "gross errors of judgement" in raids in Raiton Road, Brixton, in 1981. Page 2

## Peer fined

Lord Mountgarret was fined a total of £1,000 by magistrates at Skipton, North Yorkshire, for firing a shotgun at a hot air balloon during a grouse shoot. Page 3

## Parkinson role

Michael Parkinson has been appointed to the board of TV-am, subject to IBA approval, and been given an extra role suggesting programme ideas. Page 3

## Contempt claim

A newspaper cartoon was criticised for alleged contempt after a captain in the Intelligence Corps was sentenced to be dismissed the service for being drunk in charge of a patrol. Page 3

## Pension advice

An advisory service is to be launched for the 12 million people in private pension plans, linked to the Citizens' Advice Bureau. It should start operating in a couple of months. Family money, page 13

## Race sponsors

On the eve of the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket the Stewards of the Jockey Club announced that they are to allow sponsorship of classic races. Page 17

## Saturday

In *Saturday* today, and inside view of the British grand prix circuit and the build-up to the world championships. Also included in the arts and leisure section published each week with *The Times* are regular features on travel, gardening, eating out, drink, records and news of the coming week's events in the arts.

Leader page 7  
Letters: On CND, from Mr E P Thompson, and Mr N Walter; telephones and blind, from Mr E J Venn; child thieves, from Mr J F Rutter.  
Leading articles: CND debate; civil courts and criminal law; Mr Heath's right of passage. Features, page 6  
Two views on subsidized agriculture; Levin on Brexide; the new chill between the two Germanies. Obituary, page 8  
Lord Redmayne

# Buenos Aires junta says 'disappeared' are all dead

From Andrew Thompson, Montevideo

Argentina's military government yesterday issued its "final document" on the war against subversion and terrorism. It declared that the "disappeared" people should be considered legally dead, and signalled official protection for members of the security forces involved in "excesses" during the counter-insurgency campaign.

The announcements, on nationwide television and radio, were preceded and followed by protest from human rights groups and political parties. Most observers believe the attempt to close the issue of human rights violations in the 1970s will fail, and that the subject will inevitably end up in the hands of the new civilian Congress due to meet next year, after the elections planned for October 30.

The 7,000-word document, which said that between 1969 and 1979 the guerrilla organizations carried out 21,642 terrorist acts, and that at their height they had 25,000 members of which approximately 15,000 were combatants. The role of the security forces in the repression was declared "acts of service".

The Government admitted the security forces "committed errors which, as in all wars, may have gone beyond the limits set by fundamental human rights, but which remain subject to the judgment of God in each individual case" and the understanding of men.

"It must be absolutely clear that those people on the list of the disappeared, and who are not in exile or in hiding, must be considered dead, for all legal and administrative purposes." The statement added that the Government was unable to define the time and cause of death.

Human rights groups had demanded publication of a full list of the "disappeared", who are estimated to number

between 20,000 and 30,000. They say thousands of "disappeared" deaths involved not guerrillas, but non-violent political opponents of the military regime.

On Thursday, human rights organizations demonstrated in front of Government House, with posters in the form of large photographs of the "disappeared". The demonstrators, numbering more than a thousand, recognized a senior police officer and attacked his car. The officer left.

The Government statement has also been widely condemned by political leaders. Señor Fernando de LaRúa, a presidential hopeful from the Radical Party, has condemned the attempt to place all illegal actions by the security forces under the jurisdiction of military, and not civilian courts. He said that under the constitution, jurisdiction of the courts cannot be altered retrospectively, as the Government is trying to do. Other political leaders have described the Government's handling of the issue as repugnant.

The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, the group of women who have been campaigning for almost five years to learn what happened to their "disappeared" children, condemned the statement. "In reality it is nothing more than a new and unsuccessful attempt to escape justice and guarantee the impunity of the cowards who were responsible for the last decade of horror and tragedy in Argentina."

● **Buenos Aires:** Señor Jorge Bernasconi, master of a ship scheduled to try to take relatives of Argentine war dead to the Falkland Islands, said he will "not" return "at the slightest opposition" from British forces. The *Lago Lacer* is scheduled to sail from Buenos Aires today.

# Man has urge to kill, court told

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

A man accused of murdering his five-year-old nephew as the boy lay asleep with his mother has an irresistible urge to kill people, a court in Liverpool told yesterday.

Ronald Waldron, aged 37, of Compton Way, Anfield, Liverpool, has admitted to the police that he has had the killer instinct for many years, the court was told.

He said: "I get the madness, the killing instinct. I just cannot help myself. With the drink and the speed on top I just cannot control myself."

He appeared at Liverpool Magistrates' Court yesterday charged with murdering Andrew, the attempted murder of Mrs Rosemary Waldron, aged 32, the wife's mother, and aggravated burglary on April 23.

Reporting restrictions were lifted at the request of Mr Alex Cleverley, Mr Waldron's solicitor.

The court was told that Mr Waldron had made a full written confession to the police and other equally serious matters were being investigated.

Mr Norman Wootton, the stipendiary magistrate, remanded Mr Waldron in custody until next Tuesday.

Mr Brian Crebbin, prosecuting solicitor, said: "He confessed in a very considerable detail both orally and in a very lengthy statement to both these and other matters."

"He said he has had these urges for many years and when they arise he will kill anyone," Mr Crebbin said.

"Inquiries will revolve round

not only the presently charged offences, but indeed other matters believed to have been committed, not only on Merseyside but throughout the country," Mr Crebbin said.

He told the court: "Before she went to bed, Mrs Waldron locked and secured as best she could the doors and windows. She remained asleep until the early hours of Saturday morning when she was awoken by the horror of a severe blow to the head."

He added: "She did not, however, lose consciousness and the dreadful thing that happened was that she heard Andrew wake and then realized that her assailant had shifted his attack to the little boy. She lay there unable to do anything and heard Andrew repeatedly hit with a blunt instrument."

Mr Crebbin told the court that while Mrs Waldron lay in bed, feigning death she was attacked again. She was unable to identify the man because of the severity of the attack and her limited eyesight, but Mr Waldron later confessed at length to the police.

Mr Crebbin said that Mr Waldron allegedly told the police that before the attack he had been drinking and sniffing glue and had taken a drug. He had spent money he should not have spent and had a row with his wife.

"At first he wanted to kill his wife but put that thought to one side and decided to kill his sister-in-law. He told police that he had an irresistible urge to kill



Water bus: One hundred Maori warriors with tattooed faces rowed the Prince and Princess of Wales to their last formal engagement in New Zealand yesterday. End of tour, page 5.

# Riot police use tear gas on Paris students

From Diana Geddes Paris

About 200 riot-wing students, wearing leather jackets and with scarves masking their faces, clashed with riot police in Paris yesterday in continuing protest over the introduction of selective second-year examinations.

The students threw stones as the helmeted police fired tear gas and beat them back with batons to prevent them moving towards the National Assembly, the scene of similar clashes between police and right-wing students on Wednesday.

A demonstration by some 6,000 left-wing students on Thursday passed off without incident.

Yesterday's demonstration, by students mainly from law and economics faculties, was also orderly and calm until the moment came for them to disperse at Les Invalides when right-wing militants tried to force a confrontation with police.

The students later regrouped in the Latin Quarter where they again attacked police cars with stones, shattering the windscreen of one. The police jumped out with their guns drawn and the demonstrators fled. About 30 police were slightly injured and an unknown number of students.

Police cars and vans of riot police continued to patrol both the left and right banks until late into the evening. Several arrests were made.

# Swiss expel Soviet press agency chief for subversive acts

Berne (Reuters) - Switzerland yesterday ordered the closure of the Soviet Novosti news agency's office here and expelled its bureau chief for what it called political agitation, disinformation and interference in Switzerland's internal affairs.

A Justice Ministry statement described the affair as an infringement of sovereignty and said the Government had protested to Moscow.

It said the agency's office in the Swiss capital helped to organize numerous left-wing demonstrations, including one which disrupted Parliament last July, and actively supported conscientious objectors to military service.

Mr Alexei Dumov, the bureau chief, was summoned yesterday morning to the Foreign Ministry, where he was told that he had 10 days to leave the country.

A Soviet embassy spokesman described the Swiss allegations as groundless and said Moscow had made a strong counter-protest.

Switzerland has protested three times to Moscow in the past 12 months over alleged spying by Soviet diplomats. Over the past 18 months, Switzerland has ordered two Soviet deputy military attaches and two Geneva-based Soviet diplomats to leave the country, all for spying.

A Soviet consular official and the head of the Soviet airline Aeroflot's office in Geneva also left the country last year after being questioned by Swiss police in connection with similar offences.

The Swiss Cabinet said in a separate statement the Novosti's activities endangered the country's security and damaged relations with other states. It pledged to take firm action against all future attempts to influence political opinion in this country.

Novosti specializes in feature articles about the Soviet Union. It has been suspected by Western intelligence of having links with the KGB, the Soviet secret service. It has denied the accusations.

The Justice Ministry claimed that Novosti conducted its subversive activities largely through two Swiss employees. A ministry spokesman said no arrests of Swiss had been made.

The ministry said that, acting under the cover of the two Swiss, Novosti infiltrated Switzerland's peace movement, as well as a dissident youth movement.



Alexei Dumov: Interest in peace movement

# Heath accuses Fleet Street

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Edward Heath last night accused a number of Fleet Street newspapers of a conspiracy to ruin his relations with the Royal Family and to publicly discredit him.

The former Prime Minister missed a 7.03 pm Commons vote on the Finance Bill on Wednesday because police held up traffic in Parliament Street to give the Queen Mother clear access through to a City engagement, despite their obligation to allow MPs equally clear access to the Commons.

Mr Heath was reported to have said that even if the Queen was passing by at the time of a Commons vote, her car "could be diverted round the park once or twice."

Yesterday's *Daily Express* carried the main front-page headline: "Heath clashes with Queen Mother's Rolls. Who goes first? I do, says Ted the ex-Premier."

Mr John Warden, the paper's political editor, wrote: "An angry Mr Edward Heath last night claimed right of way over the Queen and the Royal Family when he is going to the Commons. Members of Parliament cannot be stopped by the monarch," he declared. "That should be obvious."

But in a statement issued at the Commons, Mr Heath described the *Daily Express* and other newspaper reports, making the matter a personal issue between the Queen Mother and himself, as "a disgraceful piece of journalism."

He said that he had the greatest admiration and respect for the Queen Mother, who had shown him many kindnesses.

Mr Heath added: "It is an attempt to ruin my relations as a former Prime Minister with

the Royal Family and to discredit me personally in the eyes of the public." Speaking in Exeter, he changed the word "attempt" to "plan".

The statement said that he had informed the Chief Whip of the reasons for missing the division. "Contrary to statements in the papers, I have made no complaints to anyone else. I so informed the *Daily Express* lobby correspondent, the only press man of those who have written about the incident to speak to me personally."

But he accused Mr Warden, who is chairman of the Parliamentary Lobby Journalists, of breaking the rules of the Lobby in the article he had written. Lobby journalists often work on a non-attributable basis, not quoting or identifying their sources.

Continued on back page, col 4

# Churchill denies smearing CND

By Nicholas Timmins

Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Streteford, yesterday dismissed as rubbish and without foundation charges by Monsignor Bruce Kent, general secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, that he was linked with people trying to smear CND.

Mr Kent has accused the Coalition for Peace through Security, a group run by three Conservative prospective candidates, of sending spies to CND's offices, telling lies about CND and claiming he had organized an IRA march.

He said: "These people meet Winston Churchill once a week. I do not know who orchestrates the campaign. The Government has presented us as being led by left-wing Marxist groups."

Mr Churchill said: "I would be glad to know of Mr Kent's evidence, and I challenge him to produce it. I have weekly meetings with nobody."

He was chairman of the Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament, he said, a group of four Conservative MPs which met monthly with two officials from Conservative Central Office.

He also headed the Committee for Peace with Freedom. That met every three months in his flat. Its members included Lady Olga Maitland, who runs Women for Defence, Lord Chalfont, Mr Norris McWhirter, Mr Ken Aldred of the British Atlantic Committee's offshoot, Peace through Nato, General Sir Harry Tugwell and Mr Edward Leigh of the Coalition for Peace through Security, which operates from an office in Whitehall. The committee last met on Tuesday.

Mr Churchill said: "I am not a member of the Coalition for Peace through Security and I do not take part in any of their deliberations."

"The nub of Bruce Kent's complaint against them is that they exercise their democratic rights in a free society to go along to CND's meetings and ask awkward questions. One can appreciate that he gets a bit exasperated."

"He is seeking to smear me and my colleagues in the Conservative Party by alleging a smear campaign. I have never encouraged anyone directly or indirectly to indulge in a smear campaign."

Mr Kent said that apart from meeting the coalition, which he described as the most offensive, aggressive and unjust group around, Mr Churchill "goes in for this sort of thing independently", claiming, for example, that CND never spoke about Soviet weapons, which was untrue.

Mr Churchill's Committee for Peace with Freedom has been involved in controversy before. Mr Alan Lee Williams, chairman of the executive of the British Atlantic Committee,

Pretoria has decided to ban blacks wholly or partially from 17 of the city's parks, and is considering whether other "problem parks" should also be reserved for whites only. Uniformed guards with dogs will patrol the parks "sporadically" to discourage any blacks tempted to ignore the ban.

This return to the rigidities of an earlier apartheid era was agreed on at a meeting on Thursday night of the Pretoria City Council by 23 votes to seven. The majority group on the council, the Federation of Ratepayers Association, is dominated by members of the National Party (NP), which also rules at the national level.

Pretoria's parks were opened to all races in the mid-1970s at the time of the holding of the South African Games so as to avoid possible embarrassment to black participants from other countries, such as Malawi.

Three of the 17 parks will be fenced off into black and white sections, and the others will be for whites only. Notice boards will be erected explaining the new regulations. The only blacks exempt from the ban will be nursemaids looking after white children. It will cost 70,000 rands (about £40,000) to put up the fences and boards.

Black traffic policemen will be employed as "relations officers" whose job will be to explain in a "nice" way to their fellow blacks that they are not allowed in the parks.

# Pretoria to close city parks to blacks

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Continued on back page, col 5

# Washington 'cake' loses chunk of icing

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Capital building (right) which dominates the Washington skyline like an ornate wedding cake, is falling apart. And, being at the centre of the city's political life, the building's crumbling facade has immediately become the source of a political dispute.

On Wednesday night, shortly after President Reagan had finished delivering his Central American address to a joint session of Congress, a 16ft section of the historic West Front of the building crumbled to the ground.

The collapse was in a section of the Capitol that was built between 1802 and 1807, the original wing of the House of Representatives for which George Washington laid the corner stone.

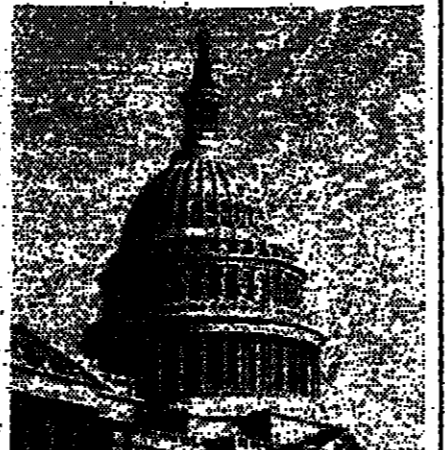
Although no one was injured it was the most serious incident to befall the building since a 40lb chunk of

decorative moulding fell from the west central front in 1965.

Within hours of Wednesday night's incident, Representative Jerry Lewis had called a press conference so that journalists could inspect the damage and hear his plea for rapid congressional approval for a proposal to enlarge and improve the West Front at a cost of over \$70m (about £46m).

However, there is strong resistance to the \$70m renovation plan. The American Institute of Architects and conservation groups say the scheme would drastically alter the West Front's appearance. They maintain that a facelift of the existing facade is all that is required.

Both sides, however, are concerned that if nothing is done soon the "wedding cake" will lose more of its icing.



# TV football agreement may be near

The Football League and television companies may be near agreement on the televising of football next season. At a seven-hour meeting yesterday a revised set of proposals was worked out and these are being circulated to club chairmen in advance of their meeting next Thursday.

The TV companies have made no advance on their previous offer of £5.3m over two years, but they have made alterations to the planned coverage, with four matches being shown at the weekend rather than 10 as at present. These would include "a part live element", matches being played on Saturday night and Sunday afternoons to fit in with TV schedules. They also have agreed to make some concessions on shirt-advertising.

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### 'Million acres derelict'

More than a million acres of land in Britain, five times the area usually regarded as derelict, have been damaged by industrial development, a conference was told yesterday.

Professor Graham Ashworth, head of urban environmental studies at Salford University and a former president of the Royal Town Planning Institute, said the figure of 25,000 acres usually quoted should be multiplied five times for a true picture of damaged land.

He called for a unit at governmental-level to be set up to run a national waste disposal and reclamation strategy.

Waste land was "dangerous, damaging, ugly and impeding", Professor Ashworth told the closing session of Reclamation 83, a four-day conference of local authorities and industry at Grays, Essex. "We shall never know how much economic development has hindered because of bad environment."

Professor Ashworth described the creation of an international garden festival at derelict docks in Liverpool as a great act of faith.

### Beatles museum given £40,000

A planned museum in Liverpool to the Beatles to get a £40,000 urban development grant from the Government, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

The development in a building near the site of the Cavern Club, where the group began, is being carried out by the commercial radio station Radio City, with support from Merseyside County Council and the English Tourist Board.

### Benefit Giro stays first class

The Government has dropped plans to send Giro cheques for social security benefits by second-class post. Mr Anthony Newton, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said in a commons written reply yesterday.

He said he was looking for economies without causing hardship or inconvenience to claimants.

### Blow to video pirates

The campaign against video piracy was advanced significantly yesterday when the Copyright (Amendment) Bill completed its passage through the Commons.

It means the present maximum penalty under the Copyright Act of £50 for trading in pirate videos goes up to £1,000 with an unlimited fine and a maximum of two years' imprisonment on conviction by a crown court.

Parliament, page 4

### Arson charges withdrawn

John Alfred Walker, aged 31, of Harehills Avenue, Leeds, was committed for trial at Leeds Crown Court by magistrates at Bradford, West Yorkshire, yesterday, charged with stealing property valued at £63 from a house in Bradford. An application for bail was rejected.

Charges of damaging a flat in Bradford with intent to endanger life, and causing damage of more than £1m by fire to two houses near Plymouth in January last year, were withdrawn.

### Hunting banned

The Labour-controlled Thamesdown Borough Council has banned fox hunting on its land. The ban will cover 1,000 acres in the Wiltshire borough.

### Correction

Nationalization of the top 25 companies and renationalization of privatized industry, with compensation only on the ground of proven need, have not been included in Labour's manifesto as stated yesterday.

### 'Dr Doolittle' fined for his anti-fraud crusade

A self-styled Dr Doolittle who wanted to "talk to the bureaucrats" defrauded the Department of Health and Social Security of more than £11,000, claiming it was in the public interest, magistrates in Wimbledon, south London, were told yesterday.

Brian Davies, aged 53, of Kingsmead Avenue, Worcester Park, claimed unemployment and supplementary benefit for four years while he was working full time. He was convicted of five charges of making false statements to the department and was fined £200 costs and ordered to pay £200 costs.

Mr Ian Wheatley, for the prosecution, said: "Dr Davies was finally caught after he wrote a letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons saying: 'Knowing that the DHSS ignored small frauds, I set myself a target of £12,000, which I expected to take a period of four years to obtain'."

Davies, a PhD, and BSc, a former management consultant now working as a jobbing gardener, received £11,470

## Election issues matter more than the date, Biffen says

By Anthony Bovias, Political Correspondent

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons and a known Cabinet advocate of election delay, last night threw himself into the pre-June campaign with a denunciation of the Labour Party's Bennite platform.

He said in Bristol: "We are now all deluged by the chatter of general election dates. I will not add to the chorus. There is little further to be said. The debate should now proceed to election issues and party policies."

Mr Biffen chooses his words with acute care, and the fact that he has now jumped on to the campaign bandwagon will make it all the more difficult for the Prime Minister to extricate herself from the June option.

He said last night: "This election is going to be one of the most exciting and important since 1945. There really is the option of radical Bennite change."

In spite of the fact that Mr Wedgwood Benn now brooded on Labour's backbenches, he had managed to imprint his own particular brand of socialism on Labour's policies.

He did not discard his privileged position. Tony would be casting it in the air at such exciting prospects," Mr Biffen said. "By conscious choice, or by misadventure, the British public could soon be taking a giant stride to the left, to greater government, higher taxation and planned equality."

The lesson, he added, was clear. Labour had been captured by Mr Benn and his backers. The Labour right, including Mr Denis Healey were burnt out. "They are yesterday's men in ideas and organization."

Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader, said in Warrington that although the Prime Minister spoke of recovery, there had been no recovery for the extra 2.5 million people who were now on supplementary benefit with one-in-eight now dependent on it or for the people who had been affected by the Conservative destruction of two million jobs.

He added "Mrs Thatcher and the Tories hanker after our Victorian past. The general election will be the past versus the future."

The campaign is even including sub-debates about specifics. Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Conservative Party chairman, said in Solihull that Labour planned "to deliver the nation's crime fighters into the hands of

politically-motivated groups of left-wing councillors."

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow home secretary, said in Sparkbrook, Birmingham, last night that it was not surprising "that under such an incompetent Home Secretary crime in this country should have risen to the highest level in our history."

The crime crisis, he said, would be beaten only when the police were once more an integral part of the communities they served. "That is why the next Labour government will create police authorities all over Britain with powers to ensure that the police are run in a way that the people want and need."

But Labour's campaign was not without its dissent. Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, said at a Berlin conference: "There is no case for unilateral concessions, whether in the field of disarmament or economic relations."

In a plan for a more considered Western approach to the Williamsburg conference and the Soviet Union he said: "If trade concessions and arms reductions can be linked, it would be a step towards a peaceful resolution of our differences."

A survey of 183 Conservative MPs, conducted by the Channel 4 programme *A Week in Politics*, discovered that only 36 per cent wanted a June election, compared to 34 per cent who favoured the autumn, 16 per cent next year, and 14 per cent who expressed no preference.

The Department of Employment last night announced that the Retail Price Index for September would be published on October 14, the day after the favoured date for an October poll. Unemployment figures will be published on September 29 and November 3 and would therefore have little direct impact on the choice of election date in October.

Voting intentions for the forthcoming Cardiff, North-west, by-election, as indicated in an Opinion Research Centre poll conducted for Independent Television News, were given last night as: Conservative 48 per cent; Labour 26 per cent; SDP-Liberal Alliance 19 per cent; Plaid Cymru 7 per cent. The changes on the last elections were: Conservative down 3 per cent; Labour down 7 per cent; Alliance up 5 per cent; Plaid Cymru up 5 per cent.

### Salvage unit to be wound up

The Salvage Corps in London, Liverpool and Glasgow will be wound up next year, it was announced yesterday. The privately-owned service, which employs 300, was founded in the nineteenth century by insurance companies, to minimize the damage caused by fires and water damage.

But the committee of insurers, which spends £4.5m a year on running the specialist service, says it believes it can no longer be justified. The job of safeguarding property after fire will be taken over by fire brigades, as in other cities. The committee hopes that the 300 employees will be found jobs in the fire brigades but some of the men believe that their work cannot be adequately done by firemen.

The corps, its vans are frequently seen at the scene of fires in the capital, said in a statement that its management committee "has been increasingly concerned" about its effectiveness.

"The changing shape of commercial interests within London and the ever-widening dispersal of premises and risks, leads to the unavoidable conclusion that a specialist service can no longer be justified," it said.

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC since its inception in 1974, is standing down to concentrate on his job as regional secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. It is assumed that he would be a candidate for the general secretaryship should Mr Mostyn Evans retire.

The Labour Party and the TUC's joint document setting out an alternative economic strategy was part of the successful composite resolution and will add to Mr Michael Foot's confidence before the election.

The conference voiced a total commitment to the return of a Labour government, which was the only way of reducing "the massive level of unemployment and offering the people of Wales opportunities for employment at levels of remuneration consistent with dignity and self respect."

A move to disassociate Welsh trade unionists from any party talks with a future Labour government was brushed aside by the general council.

### Wales faces 'public disorder'

From Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter, Cardiff

Serious social unrest and public disorder could break out in Wales unless immediate steps are taken to tackle unemployment problems, the Government was told yesterday.

A motion overwhelmingly passed by the Wales TUC said that the fabric of Welsh society could break down because of "forced unemployment". Such a situation was "unacceptable and intolerable."

The motion said that the Government was responsible for the "near destruction" of the economy and that it was directly responsible for the high level of unemployment in Wales and "a lowering of the quality of life for the majority of working people."

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, told *The Times*: "The warnings about social unrest first came in the form in Wales in 1980-81 during the steel strikes and closures."

"The recent speculation about an election has recharged these arguments. If a Thatcher government is returned and the only prospect for young people is more of what we have already had, it is almost certain they will look for other ways of solving their problems."

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Mrs Shirley Goodwin with her sons, Spencer (left) and Bradley yesterday (Photograph: Sureah Karadia).

### Ransom woman kept blindfolded

Mrs Shirley Goodwin, the woman held to ransom, described yesterday how she was kept blindfolded during her six-day captivity before being left on a south London street late on Wednesday (Stewart Trender writes).

Speaking from her bed in her home in Hackney, east London, Mrs Goodwin, aged 40, a mother of four, said she was still recovering from a "terrifying" experience. "I am very weak and cannot walk", she said.

Looking pale and tired Mrs Goodwin, whose husband, John Goodwin, is in prison, said: "I do not know what gave me the strength. I am a fairly strong person. I would not have taken much more of it. I was very frightened."

After she was freed, Mrs Goodwin spoke to her husband, who has a history of heart trouble, by telephone.

Two of Mrs Goodwin's teenage sons were with their mother as she spoke to

the press. The other children are staying with friends. As Mrs Goodwin spoke her voice sometimes trailed away.

During her captivity she said that she was told she would not be harmed and anything she wanted would have been given to her if it was available.

Mr Geoffrey Gordon, the family solicitor, said that Mrs Goodwin had been supported by a "decent, loyal and close-knit family".

### Doubts on research into Depo-Provera

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Strong doubts about the quality of scientific research into the effects of Depo-Provera were expressed yesterday by experts on the panel at the public hearing into its possible use as a long-term contraceptive.

Professor William Asscher, Professor of Medicine at the Welsh National School of Medicine, pointed out that the drug had been in use for 15 years; it was approved in 85 countries and had been used by 10 million women. Yet he had seen no reports of mortality or morbidity rates. That must mean that either it had not been super-drug or that it had not been very well studied.

Professor Max Elstein, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Manchester University, said the second suggestion was correct. He did not think the drug in use had been studied properly because epidemiological studies had not been undertaken where good data could be obtained.

Professor Elstein agreed with Professor Asscher that there should be more solid evidence after the drug had been used by 10 million women, but said the epidemiological structure in the countries where it had been used had prevented proper studies being undertaken.

The point was taken up by Dr Howard Jacobs, Professor of Reproductive Endocrinology at

Middlesex Hospital Medical School, who said that some of the panel were looking with increasing anxiety at the gaps in the information they wanted.

He questioned Professor Elstein on research into the presence of the drug in the milk of breast-feeding mothers, on its effects on women with impaired liver function and suggested that, on first principles, the drug might be supposed to affect the chemical reaction in foetuses when the sex of the baby was being determined. Dr Jacobs also wanted to know what happened in the womb to cause bleeding difficulties in women taking Depo-Provera.

Professor Elstein accepted that the available research did not answer those questions, and suggested that there should be proper surveillance if it was granted a product licence in Britain. But he pointed out to the panel that the present level of knowledge about the effects of the oral contraceptive pill would have meant it would not have been licensed if the application was being made now.

The public hearing ended yesterday after five days of evidence from experts in a wide range of fields. The panel will now consider its recommendations. It is expected to report in the middle of next month to Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health.

### New technology plea by Tebbit

From Arthur Osman, Birminghamian

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said in Birmingham yesterday that he refused to believe the Midlands had lost its touch in the art of wealth creation "despite of the 'nasty knock' it had taken in the recession."

He told the regional Institute of Directors "Much has been going wrong for a long time. Competitiveness has been steadily eroded, undermining the very foundations of our engineering industry well before the recession struck its blows against weakened firms."

But the "conditions for recovery were appearing," he said. Manufacturers' expectations on output were stronger than at any time since 1979. Productivity had improved 14.5 per cent over the past two years.

The minister said: "I am well aware the Midlands have felt the impact of our economic problems harder than other regions. There are many reasons for this, but one of the most important has been its over-dependence on industries like cars, engineering and metal working."

"Traditional industries must become more competitive so that customers such as the components industries will want to buy their products again in large numbers. The area must also look to introduce new indus-

tries and new technologies."

He held a joint conference with Mr John Butcher, Under Secretary for Industry and Minister with responsibility for West Midlands. Mr Butcher announced the extension of two government-funded consultancy schemes in the region.

Firms with 40 or more employees will become eligible for up to 15 days of free consultancy by the Manufacturing Advisory Service or the Design Advisory Service. In other parts of Britain only firms with 60 or more workers benefit from the schemes.

Mr Butcher's eight-member "team for innovation" is being formed. He denied that it would be just another layer of civil servants being imposed.

Mr Tebbit said that under last year's small engineering firms investment scheme, which has been reopened with £100m, West Midlands had secured twice as much support as the national average. He said that there was a new air of realism and commonsense in industrial relations.

The dispute at Cowley had shown again on the television screen the spectacle of the mass meeting at which decisions were taken on a show of hands on issues which affected the livelihood of thousands.

### Police chief admits raid errors

By Nicholas Timmins

Police officers committed "gross errors of judgment" in the raids on 11 houses in Railton Road, Brixton, in July 1981, Mr Geoffrey Dear, Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, said yesterday.

Mr Dear, who carried out the internal police inquiry into the raids, in which thousands of pounds worth of damage was done in a search of petrol bombs, said he had personally recommended disciplinary charges against some officers. The Police Complaints Board, however, whose report on the raids severely censures the police and criticizes their response to the board's findings, had felt it would be unfair to single out individual officers who were patently officers, who had not been discovered, were guilty as well.

Mr Dear, in an interview on BBC radio, said he was in no way seeking to justify the errors committed. It should be remembered, however, that the police were under "quite enormous stress" after the Brixton

riots, which had been on a scale no-one had seen before.

Significant changes in procedures had been introduced, he said, to counter the errors committed which included missing warrants issued under the Licensing Acts. No petrol bombs were found during the raids.

Much more senior officers had now to be involved in the obtaining and execution of warrants, Mr Dear said. If ethnically-sensitive premises, particularly drinking houses, were involved, the advice of community leaders and of the community liaison officer had to be sought. There were also changes in the booking in and booking out of equipment after complaints from the board about lack of supervision in the recording of who was issued with sledgehammers and crow-bars.

In addition, there had been a heavy training programme for senior officers in handling such action in the context of public disorder, and police training methods had been undergoing

changes when the riots occurred.

Mr John Fraser, Labour MP for Lambeth, Norwood, whose constituency includes parts of Brixton, said yesterday he was very unhappy at what the report had revealed and said it "really does point towards a wider accountability for the strategy of such operations."

Mr Fraser, whose parliamentary question led to publication of the report some months after it was completed, described its findings as "sensational" and said he was unhappy that the police had not been specific to the board about the changes they had made.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, yesterday announced that police forces in five areas, together with the customs and excise, had agreed to participate in field trials for the tape recording of interviews with suspects (Our Political Correspondent writes). "Two cassette tapes will be recorded simultaneously. One will be treated as an exhibit and the other as a working copy."

### Court order for wife of 'supergrass'

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Sir John Hermon, the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary was ordered yesterday to produce the wife of an alleged IRA "supergrass" in the High Court next week after a writ of habeas corpus was issued at the Court of Appeal.

Lord Lowry, the Lord Chief Justice, found that there was a prima facie inference that Mrs Linda Quigley was restrained from meeting her relatives earlier this month when she appeared in the recorder's court in Londonderry. He was giving a reserved judgment in an appeal by Mrs Quigley's sister against the refusal last week of a High Court judge to issue a writ.

Mrs Quigley disappeared

with her husband, Robert, and children from their home in Londonderry last November, after he allegedly gave information leading to the arrest and charging of several people for terrorist offences. He is expected to be the main witness in a forthcoming trial.

Mrs Quigley's relatives allege that despite several requests she was prevented from meeting them when she appeared in an action for damages over injuries she received in a road accident.

Sitting with Lord Justice Jones and Lord Justice O'Donnell, Lord Lowry in a unanimous judgment said the prima facie inference was that Mrs Quigley was kept from her

relatives, although perhaps with her welfare and safety in mind.

He ordered that the writ be returned by next Friday for a hearing in the Queen's Bench Division.

Yesterday's hearing was the latest in moves made by the families of "supergrasses" to discover the whereabouts of their relatives.

Overseas selling prices  
Australia 28s 2d, Belgium 19p 0.50, Canada 28s 2d, France 28s 2d, Germany 28s 2d, Hong Kong 28s 2d, India 28s 2d, Italy 28s 2d, Japan 28s 2d, New Zealand 28s 2d, Singapore 28s 2d, South Africa 28s 2d, Switzerland 28s 2d, Taiwan 28s 2d, Thailand 28s 2d, USA 28s 2d, West Germany 28s 2d, Yugoslavia 28s 2d.

### Science report

## Casting a little sunlight on Einstein

By the Staff of Nature

More controversy about the shape of the Sun's gravitational field has appeared in scientific literature. The issue is important because it bears directly on one of the few observational tests of Einstein's theory of gravitation, the rate at which the perihelion (the closest point of a planet's orbit to the Sun) of Mercury changes its position in relation to the surface of the Sun.

More than half a century ago, the recognition that the apparent forward movement of the perihelion of Mercury agreed well with the predictions of Einstein's theory was something of a triumph. In the 1920s, the only other observational confirmation of Einstein's theory was that of the bending of light from distant stars passing near the limb of the Sun during the solar eclipses of 1919 and 1921.

Then in the 1960s, Dr R. H. Dicke at Princeton University, one of the originators of an alternative theory of relativistic gravitation, described measurements of the shape of the Sun suggesting that it is even less like a true sphere than would be inferred from the observed rotation of its outer surface.

That raised questions about the validity of the forward movement of the orbit of Mercury as a test of Einstein's theory.

Although doubt has since been cast on Dicke's measurements, there has been great interest in his explanation of them, the notion that the inner core of the Sun rotates much more rapidly than the outer layers.

Last year, it seemed that convincing evidence had been found that the Sun's core rotates roughly twice as quickly as its outer surface, about once every 13.1 days. A group of astrophysicists, based at Birmingham University, argued that it had been possible to pick out the 13.1-day period in measurements of the velocity of the Sun's surface extending over several months.

Now, two groups of astrophysicists, Dr M. G. Edmunds, from University College, Cardiff, with Dr D. O. Gough, from Cambridge University, and Dr P. Malby from the University of Oslo, have pointed out in *Nature* that the 13.1-day oscillation in measurements of spectral lines on the Sun's surface may be a simple consequence of the slower rotation of the outer surface.

Briefly, because of the way in which the measurements are analysed, last year's conclusion that the Sun's core is rotating twice as fast as its outer surface may simply be a statistical illusion.

Source: *Nature* (vol 302, p 808 and p 810) April 28, 1983; *Physical Review Letters* (vol 50, page 709) March 7, 1983.  
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# Parkinson gets key role in TV-am's future with place on board

Michael Parkinson emerged yesterday as one of the key factors in TV-am's survival programme when his appointment to the board of the company was announced by Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive.

Mr Aitken made it clear, in announcing new financial arrangements to secure the future of the commercial breakfast television service, that Mr Parkinson would be putting forward programme ideas, in addition to his present duties, shared with his wife, Mary Parkinson, of presenting the weekend programmes, the most successful in ratings terms.

Mr Aitken, questioned by reporters on the appointment, yet to be approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said: "It was not as a result of an ultimatum delivered to us."

He emphasized that Mr Parkinson's role would not clash with that of Mr Greg

By Kenneth Coaling

Dyke, the new editor-in-chief. Mr Aitken added that he had wanted him on the board because he believed Mr Parkinson to be "a totally professional and dedicated man who knows about making television work particularly in terms of people viewing it."

At their meeting on the day of the breaking of the "famous five" presentation team, he had come to understand the company's problems, Mr Aitken said.

Mr Michael Deakin will continue to be director of programmes, but the appointment of Mr Hilary Lawson as deputy chief executive, which the board would have had to approve, had not taken place and he is no longer with the company.

Improving revenue was not only to do with advertising, he said. David Frost would be involved in "a lot of things we have planned", but which Mr Aitken would not specify.

He added that the staff had responded at all levels - in a dramatic way to the cost-cutting exercise. There had been the need for only a few redundancies; operating costs having been reduced by 25 per cent, he said.

Mr Aitken, who impressed by his forthright answers, gave an example of how costs had risen. "One of the stories I heard was of one man who bought a TR7 on the strength of his overtime alone."

Asked what had happened to him, Mr Aitken said: "He can not buy a TR7 on his earnings any more." But was he still with the company? "Yes, he is. Any character as creative as that bloody well ought to be."

Mr Robert Kee, the other "famous five" survivor, is to continue to play a leading role.

Mr Aitken refused to comment on the dismissal of Anna Ford and Angela Rippon, a matter in which he and the board were interested in seeing a fair and proper settlement but which was still with solicitors.

His most important point was that costs would be at a level to ensure survival, even if advertising was not as great in the original budget and won't be for some considerable time.

He confirmed that the company's bank overdraft of £3m had been reinstated, and that all the institutional shareholders would fully honour financial commitments to TV-am.

Refusing to discuss figures, Mr Aitken said that he was convinced that the necessary funds were available to give them time to build themselves up again, particularly so far as the ratings - down to 300,000 - were concerned.

"The point is that the losses talked about in the old budget do not exist in the new one. I have not been sitting here doing nothing for the past two weeks."



Facing the press: Lord Marsh (left), TV-am chairman, and Mr Timothy Aitken, chief executive, yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris)



Family gathering: Five police dogs from the same litter at a passing out parade in Keston, south London, which ended their 14-week training course (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

# Intelligence captain to be dismissed

A captain in the Intelligence Corps was sentenced yesterday to be dismissed the service for being drunk when in charge of a patrol on the East German border last November.

Captain John Apps, aged 32, had admitted the charge at a court martial in Aldershot, Hampshire and another that he had failed to ensure the efficiency of other members of the patrol was not impaired by drink.

Earlier in the hearing he was cleared of acting indecently towards a soldier, which he had denied.

The prosecution had alleged that he kissed Craftsman John Curley on the neck and that Craftsman Curley had punched the captain, knocking him out.

The alleged incidents occurred at Kestern, half a mile from the East German border, last November after the patrol stopped to spend the night at a guesthouse.

Some of the soldiers danced with three German girls in the bar. At one point, Captain Apps crawled on the floor, playing with a dog.

Captain Apps told his second-in-command he had drunk 10 or 12 large beers, the court was told earlier.

Captain Apps who is married with two children, was commissioned from Sandhurst in 1970 and later went on a Russian interpreters' course before being posted to 14 Signal Regiment as intelligence officer. His service record was said to be very good.

Mr Charles Kelly, for the defence, said the Captain felt remorse for what had happened.

"At the start of yesterday's proceedings the Judge Advocate referred to a cartoon which appeared in Thursday's London evening Newspaper *The Standard*, and which he said reflected on the proceedings of the court martial.

Judge Advocate Geoffrey Chapman said the court should consider it under section 101 of the Army Act, which relates to the court's powers over contempt.

After Captain Apps had been sentenced, the court considered the cartoon.

The president, Brigadier Leslie Busk, said that in his opinion, the cartoon constituted a prima facie case of contempt. "I shall submit a certificate to that effect to an appropriate civil court."

The sentence of the court on Captain Apps is subject to confirmation.

# Telecom to sell computers

British Telecom entered the computer market yesterday, offering three newly designed pieces of electronic equipment: a personal computer, a word processor and a visual display terminal.

The move is almost unprecedented in a political atmosphere in which nationalized companies have been encouraged to contract and divest themselves of interests other than their central activity.

British Telecom views the expansion as a logical step, one which is closely related to its main activity as a telecommunications carrier.

The corporation, which is destined to be privatized if the Conservatives are returned to power, has met no resistance from the Government to its plans.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, said: "We have a proven track record in computer communications which goes back more than 20 years. And, as Europe's largest computer user, we have a wealth of experience in data processing."

The move will concern, once more, those in the telecommunications industry who have asked the Government to curtail British Telecom's sale of equipment. The competitive atmosphere in telecommunications created by the Government over the past two years is giving the corporation an opportunity to grow and to diversify its investments.

The equipment is made for British Telecom by ICL. Three main sales and service bases will be established in London, Leeds and Birmingham. The products will be sold under the Merlin label, British Telecom's business systems trademark.

It is proportionately more costly at £130,000.

However, only 27 people are now required to operate the system efficiently instead of 39 needed for the manual. That saving, the FPC claims, will be about £65,000 a year and the computer will then pay for itself in two years.

The FPC has been particularly careful about the information which is contained on the files. The basic records, for that reason, were transferred from manual to computer by their own staff without the assistance of outside labour.

In future it will be possible for a doctor to place a code number or letter concerning individual records, which only the doctor may understand. The code could signify disease, treatment or whatever the doctor might wish to classify.

The computer records allow the doctors to monitor the health and treatment of their patients much more closely and identify trends easily.

# New network links doctors and files

One of the most advanced computerized medical record systems has been installed in Bristol for the Bath and the Bristol areas and replaces a manual one which has been used for decades.

The new computer and its 24 terminals allows the 495 doctors in the region to recall any of the one million records contained on the system. At the moment doctors telephone into the centre and then either have the data requested sent to them in the form of a magnetic tape for use on their own microcomputers or they receive an ordinary paper listing. In the near future doctors will be able to connect their computers directly to the system.

The computer network is based at the Avon Family Practitioner Committee (FPC) in Bristol which looks after the interests of the doctors in its area. It is from those computer records, which it took the FPC 18 months to convert from manual files, that the doctors, the dentists, chemists and opticians in the area are paid.

The files contain no sensitive medical information but are lists of patients and their respective ages, sex, address, practitioner. The records allow doctors' payments to be made in a fraction of the time it had taken previously as calculations are based on the age of each patient.

There are three categories of payment - when the patient is under 64, between 65 and 75 or more than 75 years of age.

The Bristol system, which uses CMC computers, is one of six currently in the process of computerizing.

The others are in Barnsley, Derbyshire, Halifax, Gloucestershire, and Buckinghamshire. There are about 90 FPCs in England which will, in the future, have to follow suit.

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# Youth tried rape after seeing video

From Our Correspondent Cheltenham

A youth aged 16 tried to rape a woman after watching a video recorder of the film, *Confessions of a Window Cleaner*, which he claimed made him want to have sexual intercourse the juvenile court in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, was told yesterday.

The youth broke into the home of a married woman aged 35 and hid for 20 minutes before attacking her. She was not seriously assaulted and lured him into the kitchen, where she beat him over the head with a pair of washing tongs.

The youth ran off and later left home. He was arrested in Birmingham and told the police in a statement: "I watched the film and then went out because I wanted to have sex with a girl". He admitted burglary with intent to rape and indecent assault.

The case was adjourned for reports.

# Peer fined for balloon shots

From Ronald Fox Skipton

Lord Mountgarret was fined a total of £1,000 by magistrates in Skipton, north Yorkshire, yesterday for firing a shotgun at a hot air balloon which drifted across his grouse shoot on a Yorkshire moor.

He had pleaded not guilty to causing £76 worth of damage to the balloon, the property of the Skipton Building Society, intending to damage it or being reckless as to whether it would be damaged.

He also denied that he had acted recklessly or negligently in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft or any person in it. He was fined £500 on each charge and ordered to pay £776 compensation and £532 costs.

Lord Mountgarret, aged 46, of Stansley House, South Stansley, near Ripon, told the magistrates that when he fired the shots he was trying to give a warning of danger. He was described as an excellent and experienced shot.

He told the court that as a line of guns were firing at grouse on the moors above Appleton-Wharfedale, north Yorkshire, on October 26, the balloon suddenly rose "like a phoenix" directly ahead of the guns and began drifting towards them. He fired three shots behind the balloon because he feared the pilot intended to land.

"I wanted to make them aware of the danger they were placing themselves in. I do not believe that constitutes recklessness", he said.

The incident happened on a half-hour pleasure flight from Skipton with a pilot and two passengers in the basket of the balloon. Mr Graham Turnbull, of Grassington, said that he had tried to land the balloon near Stump Cross Caverns but failed to do so because of the strong wind. Making an instant decision, he applied heat and lifted again.

Shortly after that he saw a shooting party in line, about 100ft below. He said he shouted to them: "Sorry to create any disturbance."

Lord Mountgarret, he said, replied: "What do you think you are playing at?" Lord Mountgarret then fired two quick shots in succession, reloaded and fired a third shot.

Mr Turnbull said that after the balloon landed safely it was found that a panel in the canopy had a 6ft-long split and a canvas scoop protecting the burner was peppered with 20 holes.

He said that as he turned his back to the viscount he had felt a stinging sensation on the back of his neck when the third shot was fired. The two passengers sheltered in the bottom of the basket and were unhurt.

Mr Wilfred Anderson, for the prosecution, asked Lord Mountgarret: "Do you think it is possible you scared the living daylight out of them?"

He replied: "I can imagine they were quite frightened but that was the object of the exercise; to persuade them of the undesirability of landing in that area."

# Pit walkout

Shirebrook colliery near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, was halted yesterday when nearly 2,000 miners walked out in a dispute over redeployment of coalface workers.

# Actor fined for cocaine possession

Nicholas Ball, aged 36, who starred in the television series *Hazell*, was fined £700 yesterday for possessing 9.05 grammes of cocaine. He admitted unlawfully possessing the drug on March 16 when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, London.

No evidence was offered on a second charge, which Ball had denied, that he had carried cocaine knowing it to be illegally imported.

Mr Anthony Baldwin, prosecuting for the customs and excise, said customs officers were keeping premises in New Bond Street, London, under observation in relation to smuggling matters on March 16.

Ball was stopped as he came out of the premises and walked along the street. Mr Baldwin said. He was taken to an official car and said: "This is probably what you are looking for." He produced cocaine which was found to weigh 9.05 grammes.

Ball, of Kennington Park Road, south-east London, was then arrested and taken to a customs investigation division where he was interviewed under caution.

Mr Baldwin said that Ball said he was using the drugs "cocaine and dope. That is all I ever use. The coke is quite recent."

Ball told the customs officers that he had started using cocaine when his mother died in about November, 1981. Mr Baldwin said. When asked how often he got it, Ball was said to have replied: "Just when I want to live myself up or something equally stupid."

The cocaine found on him was worth about £50 a gramme, making his quantity worth £453.

Mr Alm Jones, Ball's lawyer, said that *Hazell* had made Ball well-known in the mid-1970s. Soon after, he married an actress who later became a household name (Pamela Stephenson, star of *Not the Nine O'Clock News*).

"But he and his wife separated in circumstances that became very distressing for Mr Ball", Mr Jones said.

"Because he and his wife were so well-known he came under the intense interest of the press and television. In addition to the break-up of his marriage, he had to cope with newspapermen on his doorstep, pictures of his flat on television and endless requests for interviews."

Ball's mother died in the same year.

# Death threat halts snooker championship

By Sydney Frixian

A death threat to Steve Davis caused a 35-minute delay to his semi-final match in the world professional snooker championship against Alex Higgins in the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

At about noon a telephone call was received by the switchboard at the theatre. It indicated that Mr Davies, the 1981 champion, was likely to be shot.

Inspector Harold McCudden summoned six police officers to the scene. After the hall was cleared spectators were searched before they were readmitted. Every corner of the theatre, including the lavatories, was also examined with metal detectors. Nothing was found.

Mr McCudden said that the identity of the caller had not been traced but the police were continuing inquiries.

Mr Barry Hearn, manager of Davis, said that Davis had not during the delay, been told of the threat. Mr Davis had during the morning's play, built a considerable advantage over Higgins to lead by nine frames to two.

Mr Hearn added: "Obviously one has to take serious notice of these things." Mr Higgins was ill yesterday morning, suffering from a stomach upset before he started playing.

Mr Davis said later that he knew something was happening but did not quite understand what it was and thought it might have been a bomb scare. He added that it would not have made any difference to his play if he had known there had been a death threat.

"I must have been playing exceptionally well for someone to have made such a call."

Championship report, page 16

# Threatened house seen by Thatcher

By Frances Gibb

The Prime Minister yesterday visited Kedleston Hall, home of the third Viscount Scarsdale and one of Britain's most famous historic homes, the future of which hangs in the balance because of a value-added-tax ruling.

Although on a private visit organized by the local Conservative Party, Mrs Thatcher is expected to take the opportunity to consider the threat to the future of what is considered to be Robert Adam's finest masterpiece.

Her visit comes shortly before a meeting on May 17 on the VAT ruling between Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a delegation from the heritage lobby led by Sir Arthur Drew, chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission.

Lord Scarsdale has said he is reconsidering whether to offer about £2m worth of Kedleston's art treasures to the nation in lieu of taxes, because at present, sales of works of art which have been on show to the public are liable for VAT.

He would have to pay about £300,000 in tax to the customs and excise. Condemning the ruling, he recently gave warning that he might have to do another Mentmore and sell off the whole lot of art treasures.

He and other owners of historic houses are pressing for works of art on show to the public not to be treated as assets of a business but to be zero-rated for VAT purposes.

# MP gets costs as libel action over letter fails

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A former senior official in the Northern Ireland housing executive yesterday lost an action alleging that an Official Unionist MP libelled him in a letter by inferring he had abused his position to advance Roman Catholicism.

The Belfast Recorder said written remarks made by Mr Harold McCusker, MP for Armagh, were defamatory, and the conclusions he reached owed more to "prejudice than to reason or to logic". Dismissing a claim for £1,000 damages by Mr Oliver Kearney, a Roman Catholic and former personnel manager with the executive, Judge Higgins said Mr McCusker's comments were made by an MP holding qualified privilege.

Mr Kearney, of Antrim, said the MP had sent a letter to the chief executive of the housing executive in 1981 saying there were numerous 100 per cent Roman Catholic housing estates in his constituency, but no 100 per cent Protestant estates of any size.

He also claimed four out of five district managers were Roman Catholics and that in Newry district about one hundred housing executive employees were Roman Catholics.

The letter added: "Should I be surprised at this development when your personnel manager and his deputy are Roman Catholics, and when the interview panel for management trainees is predominantly Roman Catholic?"

The judge awarded costs to Mr McCusker, who said after the hearing that he had never wanted the matter made public.

# Compensation concern

A British Medical Association working party is to explore the idea that compensation for medical accidents in hospitals and surgeries could be awarded in future without patients or their relatives having to prove negligence.

The association said yesterday it hoped proposals would be drawn up for discussion by doctors, the public and the Government.

The move comes after growing concern over medical accidents and the difficulties of finding out why they happen and of getting compensation.

Hospital administrators are also anxious to have a system to ensure that when an accident occurs they can find out the facts and stop it happening again. At present, once legal writs are issued, that can be difficult because medical defence bodies have been known to advise doctors not to cooperate with inquiries.

Mr David Bolt, the leader of Britain's 17,000 hospital consultants, told a BMA press conference in London: "There are cases where some technical mishap has arisen which has produced catastrophic results. The profession would feel happy if compensation was not dependent on patients proving negligence."

# Kidnap charges

Three men accused of kidnapping Mrs Shirley Goodwin, from her flat in Victoria Park Road, Hackney, east London, and imprisoning her against her will were remanded in custody until May 6 by Bow Street magistrates yesterday.

The men are: Mark Anderson, aged 21, a street trader of Chelsea Estate, Northampton; Paul Smith, aged 41, a cleaner of Chesham, Bucks; and John Smith, aged 25, a fisherman, of Denham, West, Westmore.

# Countryside protection likely to be increased

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Ministers may soon add to the 33 areas of outstanding natural beauty that now cover about a tenth of the area of England and Wales. They have decided that the Conservatives cannot enter the general election campaign without appealing to the environmental lobby which crosses party boundaries.

After examining recommendations made by the Countryside Commission, the Government has decided that there is a case for adding to the areas. An area of outstanding natural beauty is the next grade of landscape protection after that of national park.

Development controls are supposed to be tougher in such areas than outside, and they are supposed to attract grants to farmers and landowners who adopt policies of protecting wildlife and the appearance of the countryside.

The North Pennines is a strong candidate for confirmation by ministers. The Government decided six months after the last general election not to confirm it because the commission was still examining policy.

Another candidate is the 370 square mile area of the proposed Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs area. That contains important wildlife sites.

The Ramblers' Association and the Council for the Protection of Rural England have appealed this month to ministers to act on commission recommendations that reached them months or years ago. Environmental groups fear that the delay between a proposal from the commission and confirmation by ministers encourages farmers and developers to modernize and develop as fast as possible.

# Stars asked to campaign on solvent sniffing

Mr David Marshall, Labour MP for Glasgow, Shettleston, yesterday appealed to pop stars and athletes to join the fight against the sniffing of solvents.

He made his call for the Government to promote an advertising campaign after the inquiry in Glasgow on Thursday into the death of Patricia Morrison, aged 13, a former swimming champion, who died after sniffing lighter fuel.

Mr Marshall said: "I think it is a particularly tragic case. She was a young girl who had everything to live for. It highlights the need for action to eliminate the problem of solvent abuse."

Mr Marshall is piloting a private member's Bill through the Commons which would mean youngsters found sniffing glue in Scotland could be referred to a children's hearing, a Scottish system which allows children's problems to be discussed informally in the presence of their parents.

The Bill is due to receive its third reading next Friday.

# Thatcher and docks dominate campaign

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Two unrelated issues have dominated a lively election campaign in Bristol: Mrs Margaret Thatcher's personality and the municipal docks.

Mr Bob Wall, leader of the Conservatives in their challenge to Labour control of the city council, is proud "that the Prime Minister has dominated all else, even unemployment. People either like her or loathe her, and they are three to one in favour."

Bristol with several marginal seats under new boundaries, is a bellwether area for national shifts in political opinion, but the docks are a specially Bristolian issue on which local opinion is sharply divided.

Under Labour the Portbury docks complex, the largest in the country under council ownership, has required a subsidy from the rates of £10m a year, the equivalent of 17 pence in the pound.

But only the Liberals have suggested closing the docks, to the embarrassment of their Social Democrat allies, who take a more cautious view. The Conservatives say they would relieve the large debt on the docks by selling adjacent land.

Privately Labour organizers believe their majority of the 68 council seats will be cut, but think their emphasis on the council's job creation programme will appeal to the electorate. "This is a test of whether the Labour Party is best able to cope with that social disaster, unemployment," Mr

# Bristol



LOCAL ELECTIONS

Claude Draper, Labour leader, says.

But Labour in Bristol has been afflicted by the big city disease of "enthusiasm" and brotherly hatred. Mr Draper's position is said to be threatened from the left, and Mr Graham Robertson, the housing chairman, has been cast by the Conservatives as a West Country Ken Livingstone, ready to move in after polling day.

Optimistically, leaders of the Alliance talk of winning 12 to 14 seats and thus gaining the "balance of power" between the two main parties. The Alliance has joined the Conservatives in attacking the high spending and high rates imposed on Bristol.

Few city politicians can talk about the elections for long without a famous name cropping up, that of Mr Weidwood Benn, who is seeking one of the new Bristol parliamentary seats. Mr Wall claims that selections in Bristol, South, and Bristol, East, have been postponed until after the election, so Mrs Thatcher will not be the only national politician looking west next Thursday.



# Public hopes of Shultz shuttle mission give way to private fears

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

This weekend is expected to prove crucial in determining whether the maiden shuttle mission to the Middle East by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, stands any hope of success in bridging the gap between Israel and Lebanon over troops withdrawal.

The more important question about whether Syria will accept an Israeli-Lebanese agreement also remains unresolved and is overshadowing Mr Shultz's efforts which, to succeed, require the withdrawal of 30,000 Syrian soldiers and 1,000 tanks at the same time.

Some form of breakthrough is vital, not only for the political reputation of Mr Shultz who has been just nine months in the job and has recently come under criticism, but also for the reputation of the Reagan Administration's foreign policy performance.

The American delegation is already believed to have transmitted a pessimistic assessment to the White House of the chances of success for the mission. These have been combined with fears about Mr Shultz's initial reluctance to go on the mission to provide a general mood of despondency.

These private reflections have been countered by public statements of hope and goodwill, although the optimism of the first stage of the mission in Egypt quickly wore off. Yesterday, the most Mr Shultz could do for the cameras was to speak of "an inch or maybe an inch and a half of progress".

Inevitably, his performance is being compared with that of his

two best-known predecessors, Dr Henry Kissinger and Mr Alexander Haig, and, perhaps inevitably for an economist who shows no great taste for public performance, it has already been found lacklustre.

Yesterday for the first time since the mission began, Mr Shultz switched from exploratory talks to real negotiation with Mr Shabamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Meuseh Begui, the Defence Minister. "We think that the Lebanese should reward Major Haddad for what he has done."

The Israeli stand seems to take no account that Major Haddad, aged 45, is known as a previous ally of the family of Mr Camille Chamoun, the former President of Lebanon and a noted rival of the Gemayel family, a member of which is now Lebanon's head of state.

Deportation sought: Mr Neil Scher, acting director of the US Justice Department's special investigations unit arrived in Jerusalem this week to study the possibility of deporting Archbishop Valerian. This of Romania from America to Israel to stand trial for alleged war crimes, David Bernstein writes.

The 68-year-old former head of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate in the US and Canada, who was stripped of his American citizenship last October, is alleged to have incited a pro-Nazi riot in Bucharest in 1941, which resulted in the deaths of some 230 Jews and Christians.

The Justice Department ordered Archbishop Trifa to be deported.

Any hope of movement from Jerusalem over the signing of the future role of Major Saad Haddad, the militia leader whose men are financed, armed and trained by Israel, appeared to have been ruled out after the Foreign Ministry swiftly quashed local reports that a concession had been conveyed to the US.

A senior Israeli official described the renege shuttle mission as "a Lebanese patriot" and contemptuously dismissed a comment made by the Beirut Government that it was "unprecedented" for one nation to be

demanding sovereign rights in appointing a national of the other.

"Other position is very clear and unchanged. The major should be given a position of command and responsibility in southern Lebanon", the official said after attending talks between Mr Shultz, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Meuseh Begui, the Defence Minister. "We think that the Lebanese should reward Major Haddad for what he has done."

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Protest kick: A young protester at a Mothers' Day march in Buenos Aires, held to demand information about the "disappeared ones", vents his frustration on a police motorcyclist.

# Reagan envoy expected to pass Congress scrutiny

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's choice as a special envoy to Central America, has emphasized the difficulties in bringing peace to that troubled region.

Shortly after the President announced his appointment, Mr Stone, a millionaire former senator from Florida, told a press conference that the odds are long against obtaining a negotiated settlement in El Salvador. "Anyone who thinks that a mere invitation to peace will produce peace is just inaccurate and unrealistic."

However, Mr Stone's most immediate problem is to win Congressional approval for his appointment. Although the White House is saying it expects him to be confirmed easily, some Congressmen have expressed concern about his right-wing views and his past associations with the government of Guatemala.

Between 1981 and 1982 Mr Stone was a registered foreign agent of the Guatemala Government. He explained his role as trying to "advance towards peace with Belize and to try and get an improvement of human rights in Guatemala sufficient to entitle and warrant a restoration of US relations and support."

Guatemala is not known for its respect for human rights. At least 20,000 people have been killed there in recent years, the majority by government forces or officially-condoned death squads.

Although human rights abuses are understood to have fallen since President Rios Montt ousted his predecessor, President Lucas Garcia, last year, the country's record is still considered one of the worst in the world.

Senator Charles Mathias, a member of the Senate would only approve Mr Stone's nomination after "a complete inventory of all his baggage". This would include Mr Stone's role in Guatemala and whether his "political philosophy is broad enough to deal with all parties in Central America."

President Reagan has argued that Mr Stone's work in Guatemala "just adds to the experience he's had down there and the job he can do".

However, a hurried examination of his Guatemala connections were responsible for a 24-hour delay in his nomination, and explains why the President did not announce his name in his address to the joint session of Congress on Wednesday night.

Mr Stone, a Spanish-speaker, was a member of the United States delegation that monitored the March last elections in El Salvador. Last February he held secret negotiations with President Managua which resulted in an agreement with the Government to hold presidential elections by the end of this year.

The speed with which his nomination goes through the Senate will provide an important test of Congress's reaction to the doctrine on Central

America which President Reagan expounded on Wednesday night.

Another test will take place when the House permanent select committee on intelligence votes on a resolution that would end covert Criminal Intelligence Agency support to right-wing guerrillas operating against the Sandinist government in Guatemala.

A vote on the Bill was to have taken place on Thursday but has been delayed until next week to give Republican members time to draft amendments.

MEXICO CITY: President Reagan's call for more military aid to help Central America repel leftist forces won approval from El Salvador's hard-pressed right-wing government but triggered mass protests in Nicaragua, Reuters reports.

About 200,000 Nicaraguans - some waving rifles and clubs over their heads - surged into Managua's Revolution Square in answer to the Government's call for anti-American demonstrations. Similar protests were held in the other cities.

SANTIAGO: Ending a visit to Chile before flying to Uruguay, Mr Cranley O'Neil, Minister of State at the Foreign Office of a "mending fences" tour of South American states, refused to answer questions about whether he had registered with the Chilean authorities any British concern over human rights in Chile. His talks, he said, were confidential, Florencia Varas writes.

# Costa Rica releases shipload of dynamite

From Martha Honey, Panama, Costa Rica

A Swedish-owned ship has been released to resume its voyage to Nicaragua after Costa Rican authorities admitted its cargo of dynamite was for commercial use and not destined for left-wing guerrillas in the region.

The ship, lying offshore, with its five-man crew disembarking, escorted by American television crews, has been held for almost a week by Costa Rica, suspected of carrying clandestine arms to the left-wing Sandinist Government of Nicaragua.

A combination of official nerves and distortions in certain quarters have worked to blow this minor mishap into an international incident, which has further fuelled tensions between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Over the past two months there have been other incidents. These include the discovery near the Nicaraguan border of an arms-laden helicopter belonging to an anti-Sandinist guerrilla group; the arrest, apparently inside Costa Rican waters, of three American game fishermen and a fishing Costa Rican; and the reported overflight of a Nicaraguan military aircraft and several border incursions by Nicaraguan soldiers.

Earlier this week, President Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica announced he would not hold scheduled talks with the Sandinist leader Señor Daniel Ortega.

Unlike Nicaragua's northern neighbour, Honduras, which is openly supporting Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary forces, Costa Rica publicly maintains its neutrality.

However, it is now an open secret that Señor Eden Pastora's Democratic Revolutionary Alliance and Señor Fernando "El Negro" Chamorro's Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua are moving considerable quantities of arms and men across Costa Rica and into Nicaragua, where they both claim to be opening a "southern front" against the Sandinistas.

Although both Señor Pastora and Señor Chamorro have been officially asked to leave Costa Rica, they move quietly in and out of the country.

United States involvement in anti-Sandinista activity in Costa Rica is widely suspected, but unconfirmed. The United States, with Israel, has also been urging Costa Rica, which has had no army since 1948, to build up its security forces and both countries are supplying military assistance.

# Ex-minister accused of smuggling drugs

Miami (Reuters) - Colonel Luis Arce Gomez, the former Bolivian Interior Minister, and several of his top aides have been indicted here for conspiring to smuggle hundreds of pounds weight of cocaine into the United States through Miami. None of them are in the United States.

Colonel Arce Gomez served in the Bolivian military regime which handed over power to a civilian government after elections last year.

An indictment returned by a federal grand jury alleges that he appointed henchmen to sensitive law enforcement posts in order to control the flow of drugs from Bolivia to the United States. It says he set up para-military enforcement groups to seize cocaine from traffickers who were not paying him protection money.

Mr Stanley Marcus, a United States attorney, told a press conference that Colonel Gomez and 17 people accused with him were in various places in South America and he hoped for cooperation in efforts to have them extradited to the United States.

# Botha rebukes rugby official

Cape Town (AFP) - Mr F. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, has warned M Albert Ferrasse, the French Rugby Federation president, "not to interfere in domestic affairs".

The Star newspaper reported here. Mr Ferrasse said on Thursday that he would speak out against apartheid.

The Prime Minister said: "We in South Africa do not feel uncalled for interference with our domestic affairs." He would meet M Ferrasse "if I have time".

# Blood test for former Beatie

Bonn - A Berlin court has ordered Paul McCartney, the former Beatle, to travel to West Berlin for a blood test by a court-approved doctor to decide whether he is the father of an illegitimate daughter.

A spokesman for Mr McCartney said in London: "He's happy to make himself available to prove he is not the father and did not know this woman." But it would not be necessary to travel to Berlin, he added.

# Britain and US stage walk-out

Helsinki - The Inter-Ferriamentary Union (IFU) confirmed that its autumn meeting will be held in Seoul, South Korea, despite communist protests. British and American delegates walked out in protest against a draft resolution which said that the Falklands belonged to Argentina and condemned Washington for its links with South Africa.

# Brunei denial

Bandar Seri Begawan (Reuters) - Brunei has denied threatening to end its production agreement with the Anglo-Dutch oil company Royal Dutch Shell unless Britain keeps its Gurkha troops in the sultanate after independence at the end of the year. A Brunei Government spokesman said that a Reuters report to that effect was unfounded and misleading and its publication was deeply regretted.

# Nuclear ban

Athens - Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, said he will propose to the other Balkan leaders immediate action to establish a nuclear-free zone in the area. "In any case," he added, "we are determined to remove nuclear arms from our country, unilaterally."

# Palace attack

Tokyo (Reuters) - A 14-year-old schoolboy who threw a hammer at Emperor Hirohito on the grounds of the Imperial Palace on the emperor's eightieth birthday yesterday was arrested by police. The hammer fell short of a bullet-proof glass shield protecting the emperor.

# Sofia appeal

Vienna (Reuters) - Two Italians jailed in Sofia earlier this month for spying, are to appeal against the verdict to the Bulgarian Supreme Court. One arrested ten and a half years and the other three years.

# A dog's life

Milan (Reuters) - Dozens of dog lovers turned up in a Milan court to support a man accused of stealing from well-off dogs to feed their poorer brethren. But the case was dismissed when the kennel owner who employed him dropped charges.

# Correction

The omission of a line in a report on April 25 gave the impression that the Nationalists received an absolute majority of seats in Italy's last election in December, 1978. Although the Nationalist Party obtained an absolute majority of the popular vote, the Main Labour Party retained a majority of seats.

# East-West trade tension worsens

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Tensions in Washington over East-West trade worsened yesterday as Reagan Administration officials reacted negatively to an unusually strong diplomatic protest filed by the European Community.

The eight-page document, which was approved by the Council of Ministers last Monday, expressed the Community's "deep abiding concern" over new US proposals to tighten controls on Western trade to Soviet block countries.

Specifically, the Community urged the Administration to reconsider proposed legislation that would invest the President with even greater authority to restrict to flow of goods from both US and European companies to East Europe.

The Administration has asked for the tougher trade curbs in proposed legislation to renew the expiring US Export Administration Act. Congress is holding hearings on the legislation and is expected to take some important decisions in weeks ahead.

A Community official said the Council of Ministers decided to lodge a protest at this

time because of its growing concern over the heightened rhetoric in Washington over East-West trade.

European officials would have preferred to play down the growing dispute until after the Williamsburg economic summit next month, but felt events were moving too quickly.

The eight-page document, excerpts of which were reported in *The Times* two weeks ago, said the United States had exacerbated the trade dispute by seeking to impose its laws on European companies without consulting its allies.

The Community is particularly worried by the "extraterritorial" concerns which rose during the Soviet gas pipeline dispute and are raised again in the new legislation.

The memorandum, which diplomats described as containing the toughest language seen in recent years, was delivered personally to the State Department by Sir Roy Denman, the EEC's Ambassador in Washington, and Herr Peter Hermes, the West German Ambassador whose country chairs the Council of Ministers.

# EEC urges lower US rates

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The American Administration came under further pressure to use its influence to force down interest rates and stabilize currencies, at a top-level meeting in Brussels which ended yesterday.

The meeting was called by the US with the EEC, Japan and Canada specifically to study the effects of finance on trade.

The EEC has been growing increasingly anxious that high interest rates are bankrupting Third World countries and making it impossible for them to trade with industrialized countries.

At a meeting last week in Washington with President Reagan, Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, urged the Administration to intervene to cut interest rates and to stabilize exchange rates in order to help overcome the world recession.

This theme was taken up again at the meeting in Brussels when Mr William Brock, President Reagan's special trade representative, heard the case again.

# 'Stern' will not hand over diaries

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The publisher of *Stern* announced yesterday that the Hamburg-based magazine will not hand over the Hitler diaries to an international historical commission to examine their authenticity, as in this way *Stern* would destroy its exclusivity.

Herr Henri Nannen, the publisher, said in a letter to the Munich Institute of Contemporary History that *Stern* has spent a "not inconsiderable amount of money on buying and researching the diaries. In reply to charges that the magazine was trying to make money out of their publication, Herr Nannen said he would not be so untruthful as to deny that

Meanwhile, the magazine yesterday published a declaration by the widow of Hitler's personal chauffeur, Erich Kempka, who died in 1975. She said her husband never doubted that Hitler kept a diary. She was quoted as saying that her husband used to observe Hitler making notes in the car and remarking that he had to write this or that down in his diary.

Herr Wolf-Rüdiger Hess, the son of Rudolf Hess, has published the text he sent to the four allied powers asking them to allow his father, who is in Spandau prison, Berlin, to inspect the diaries and testify to their authenticity. Herr Hess asked Chancellor Kohl, the

Minister of the Interior and the Foreign Minister for their support.

The East Germans yesterday continued to maintain silence on the affair. Contrary to the report published in *The Times* yesterday, they have not yet specifically denied that a forgery factory for fake Nazi documents existed in Potsdam.

Yesterday Herr Norbert Gansel, a Social Democratic member of the Bundestag, called on the Government to set up an international commission of experts to examine the diaries. He said this commission should include Soviet and Israeli experts.

# Oslo ready to sink foreign sub

Oslo (Reuters) - Norway threatened yesterday to sink a foreign submarine reported to be in one of its west coast fjords as Sweden launched a hunt for another suspected submarine.

Mr Anders Sjaastad, the Norwegian Defence Minister, said after a Cabinet meeting that the Navy had been ordered to sink any foreign submarine that violated Norway's territorial waters. He was speaking shortly after the naval command reported new sonar contacts in a fjord, where Norwegian ships and aircraft began searching for a suspected intruder on Thursday.

Mr Sjaastad said the new contacts in the Hardangerfjord, some 60 miles south of Norway's main naval base at Bergen, were "interesting".

STOCKHOLM: The Swedish Navy yesterday continued to hunt for a suspected Soviet submarine spotted off the east coast town of Sundsvall on Thursday, Christopher Macey writes.

The eighting came just two days after the publication of a Government report blaming the Soviet Union for a long series of submarine intrusions.

# Pope calls for release of Solidarity prisoners

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Pope is understood to have urged the Polish Government to release all political prisoners before he visits his homeland in June, thus adding substantial weight to church calls for an amnesty.

Church sources say that the Pope's message had been relayed to the authorities but so far there is no sign of a reaction. Several hundred Solidarity sympathizers are still in prison for martial law offences, such as organizing strikes, and the church has been trying to use the leverage of the papal visit to gain concessions on their behalf.

Some form of concession - though probably not a general amnesty - is likely but the Government wants first to ride out the expected demonstrations on May Day and May 3, for they will give some token of the strength of the Solidarity opposition.

Tomorrow, May Day, has been portrayed as by the Government as a crucial test of strength with the underground, with the authorities determined to show Poland's neighbours that limited political and economic reforms will not open up a new Pandora's box of unrest.

# Video pirates face two year sentences

COMMONS

The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, which is designed to stop the trade in pirate video material, was read the third time in the Commons. The Bill provides that manufacturers or importers of material made in breach of the copyright can be fined up to £1,000 on summary conviction or face an unlimited fine and up to two years' imprisonment on conviction in a higher court. Those who sell or hire out pirate videos face a fine of £1,000.

Sir John Eden (Bournemouth, West, C) the Bill's sponsor, moving the third reading, said the new penalties and the additional powers of search and seizure would comprise an important deterrent against what had become a major criminal activity, damaging alike to the interests of the law-abiding businessman and this country's trading reputation.

The international aspects of this traffic were one of its most serious features. Many of these films were first made in the United States. It was not surprising that the American interests were watching carefully the progress of this legislation.

The fact that this trade was being carried out was largely due to the extent of public demand. It was tempting for people to buy a copy of a video cassette for a price cheaper than what the legitimate copy would

cost, but it was wrong that, wittingly or unwittingly, they should be encouraging illegal activity.

He hoped that the passage of this Bill would reinforce the work being done by all those concerned to stop this crime. He hoped it would help to emphasize to members of the public generally that they should have no part of it.

This was an interim measure. What was urgently needed was the outcome of the Government's comprehensive review of copyright law. He hoped they would soon be in a position to be able to consider a new copyright Bill brought forward by the Government which would deal with all aspects of the infringement of copyright.

Mr Timothy Britton (Gravesend, C) said that when the small time-trader was faced with a £2,000 fine for each illicit copy he was retailing or hiring, he might begin to feel that the business was worth getting out of quickly.

Mr Iwan Lawrence (Barton, C) said that it would be a cause for great shame if they did not deal more urgently, as other countries already had, with video and audio piracy because London was the centre of the pirating world.

Mr William Walker (Perth and East Perthshire, C) said the real villains were the retailers who knowingly obtained pirate material and offered it for hire or sale. They were the pushers of the pirate trade. They

# Eden: Deterrent against major criminal activity

Eden: Deterrent against major criminal activity

in a shambles and there should be a major initiative by the Government to respond to the needs of the film industry.

The Bill was read a third time.

The Crooner's Juries Bill, which applies to coroner juries the same qualifications and disqualifications as apply to juries in the courts and which enables coroner juries to be selected at random from the electoral roll as juries are in the courts, passed its remaining stages.

Mr Nicholas Baker (North Dorset, C), a practitioner with an interest in copyright in the film and record industry, said that the Bill was an important check on crime and he hoped it would allow the British film industry to develop.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on trade, prices and consumer protection (Lambeth, Norwood, Lab) said this was a small but extremely important reform of the law. Britain's copyright law was

the scale of piracy was staggering, perhaps two-thirds of pre-recorded cassettes in the United Kingdom were pirate copies and £12m a year which should be returning to the industry was being drained away by the video pirates.

The Government's support for this Bill was a clear sign that it was determined to defend the pirates.

The most important effect of the Bill was to increase the penalties which were ludicrously low. The severity of the penalties reflected the seriousness with which these offences were viewed.

The Bill was read a third time.

# Hot work: Mt Etna lava flows behind Swedish demolition expert

Hot work: Mt Etna lava flows behind Swedish demolition expert Lennart Abergsten (centre) as he studies ways of diverting it by dynamiting the slopes of the erupting volcano.

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Kohl by H. Canoe Bo

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5.20 من الامارات

# Kohl puzzled by Honecker's cancellation of Bonn visit

From Michael Rhyon, Bonn

Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday described the decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, to cancel his visit to Bonn as "incomprehensible" and said it did not release the East German leadership from its obligation to remove obstacles and improve relations between the two German states.

Replying to allegations of a press campaign against East Germany Dr Kohl said it was well known that the press in West Germany was free to say what it wanted. Bonn's policy would continue to strive for improvements for people living in all Germany.

The Bonn Government spokesman refused to go beyond the significantly brief statement, or to voice any official expression of regret. He said a possible renewal of the invitation at some later date was not a matter for discussion at present.

The Chancellor's taciturnity may reflect both his anger at the political hubbub here which has contributed to the cancellation, and his wish not to say anything that might further inflame relations between the two states, which have taken a sharp turn for the worse.

Other politicians, however, were more forthcoming. Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister who has pressed strongly for "continuity" in Bonn's relations with East Berlin, said Herr Honecker's decision must not be the last word on a top-level dialogue this year. People in both parts of Germany expected it to continue and it was West Germany's responsibility not to make things more difficult.

The opposition Social Democrats were more outspoken, calling the cancellation a tangible setback and urging Dr Kohl to stand up to Herr Franz Josef Strauss, who has been leading the campaign to toughen up official policy towards East Germany.

For its part Herr Strauss's Christian Union has appeared somewhat surprised by the cancellation, which it wanted to come from the West German side. One party official said it was a sign that East Germany was not ready to make improvements in human contacts between the two states.

Herr Strauss himself said the cancellation was something that had to be foreseen and would not have any tragic consequences. It was probably a good thing that Herr Honecker was not coming, Herr Strauss laid all the blame for the recent polemics over policy towards East Germany on the Free Democrats.

# Red dye thrown at royal couple

From W.P. Reeves, Wellington

Red dye and eggs were thrown at the car carrying the Prince and Princess of Wales to their farewell banquet at the Sheraton Hotel in Auckland last night.

A group of protesters set up a soup-kitchen in the street outside the hotel. A more vocal group of demonstrators - composed of unemployed, disaffected Maoris, some fringe republicans and protesters against British presence in Northern Ireland - were kept behind police lines.

Three people were arrested but the protests never reached the pitch their organisers had promised or the authorities had feared.

A banner proclaiming "The treaty is a fraud" - a reference to the treaty of Waitangi signed 143 years ago under which Maori chiefs ceded sovereignty to Queen Victoria in return for certain guarantees - was waving on the beach in the Bay of Islands earlier yesterday as the Prince and Princess boarded a giant traditional Maori war canoe.

They were propelled by the paddles of 80 warriors half a mile up the bay to a landing point beneath historic Waitangi treaty house.

The Princess looked a bit apprehensive at first as the long vessel gathered speed but was soon relaxed and smiling.

Prince Charles was presented with a carved ceremonial paddle and the Princess with a greenstone *Tiki* (Maori amulet).

The royal couple and Prince William flew out of Auckland later today after a two-week visit which will have costumed New Zealand's strong ties with the crown. The popular mood has been one of delight, yesterday's protest notwithstanding.

For their part, the Prince and the Princess displayed a matching enthusiasm as they shook countless hands and exchanged pleasantries with well-wishers.

Predictably, the Princess was the star attraction. She was always elegant, demure and friendly.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, who associated himself closely with the tour programme, touched on this aspect at the glittering farewell banquet last night.

He observed that New Zealand had its share of young people exhibiting some dilute of orthodoxy and the establishment, but with the visit, he suggested, they had seen the other side of the coin.

They would have found the Prince and Princess a charming, unaffected young couple with whom they could identify.

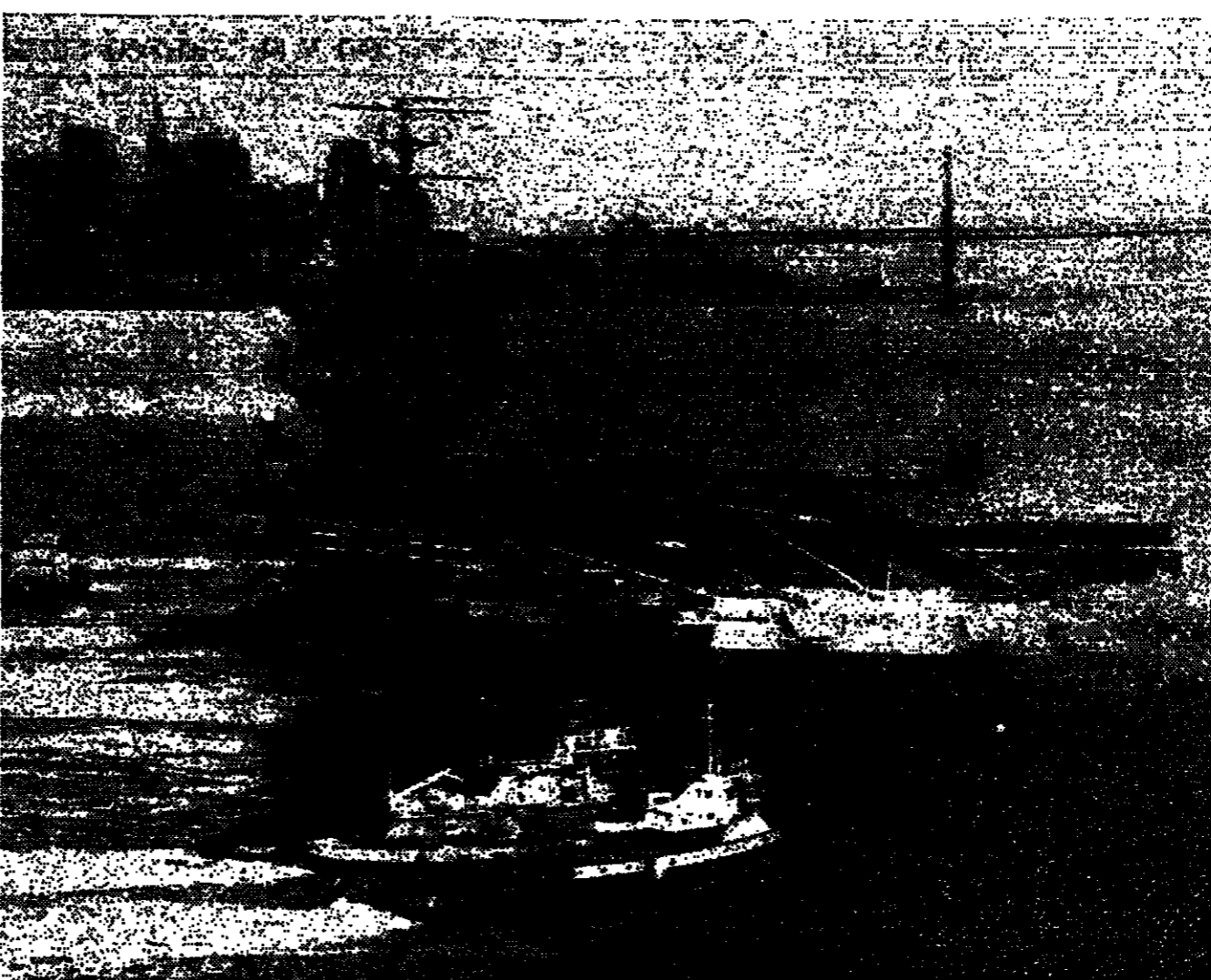
● HONG KONG: Princess Anne toured a new housing estate on an outlying island here yesterday shortly after her arrival in the colony from Tokyo, AP reports.

● LONDON: Fleet Street is being put on its best behaviour this weekend as the Prince and Princess of Wales fly to the Bahamas for what they hope will be an unblemished 10-day holiday, Rupert Morris writes.

Although none of the Fleet Street paparazzi is sending a staff photographer to the Bahamas it remains to be seen whether they would be able to resist any candid shots that might be secured by some enterprising freelance photographer.

The Prince and Princess are flying from Los Angeles tonight to the tiny island of Windwarders, where they will stay at the holiday home of Lord Romney, the grandson of the late Lord Mountbatten.

Mr Michael Shaw, the press secretary, made it clear yesterday that they would be "disappointed and saddened" if Fleet Street papers disregarded the couple's particular request to be left alone on this holiday.



Balancing act: The crew of the USS Enterprise crowd on to the extended flight deck in an attempt to right the listing ship after running aground in San Francisco Bay on returning home from an eight-month Pacific tour. The carrier was eventually freed at high tide.

# Corsicans claim responsibility for mainland bombs

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The outlawed Corsican National Liberation Front (FLNC) has claimed responsibility for the carefully organized wave of 15 bomb attacks that struck Paris, Marseilles, Aix-en-Provence and Albertville in the Val-de-Marne early on Thursday, causing extensive damage but no injuries.

It is the first time since the Socialist came to power nearly two years ago that the separatist movement has attacked targets on mainland France. It has threatened to do so since the Government's decision last January to outlaw the movement, and to appoint France's top anti-terrorist policeman, Commissaire Robert Broussard, to take command of the island's security forces.

The Government's decision followed several months of intense terrorist activity which brought the number of attacks in Corsica last year to more than 800, half of which were claimed by the FLNC. Police managed to arrest only four terrorists in the whole year.

Commissaire Broussard, who was greeted with suspicion and antipathy, has now become the island's hero. Since his arrival just over three months ago, terrorist attacks have dropped to an average of 45 a month, half the level over the three months at the end of last year, and 115 people have been arrested and imprisoned, including about a dozen with known or strongly suspected FLNC connections.

He has not employed the sharp repressive tactics that some feared; but has worked energetically and courageously to stamp out all crime, whether of political or criminal origin. One of his successes has been to show the extent to which the FLNC was in fact infiltrated by ordinary criminal elements working for personal gain.

Yesterday's "coup" on the mainland is believed to have been an attempt by the separatists to restore their rather tarnished image and glazing morale. "The truce on the mainland is over," the FLNC announced immediately afterwards in an anonymous telephone call to Agence France-Press.

The five explosions in Paris took place in the railway stations of St Lazare, Montparnasse, L'Est and Austerlitz, and in the Air France bus terminal.

A further six explosions took place in Marseilles.

The police, who had been expecting some such attack on the mainland sooner or later, were quick to swoop down on suspects, and immediately arrested 12 people considered to be close to the FLNC, six in Paris and six in Marseilles.

# Pertini to dissolve Parliament

From John Earle, Rome

President Sandro Pertini is expected to dissolve Parliament and call a general election on June 26 as a result of the Socialist's withdrawal of support from Signor Amintore Fanfani's four-party coalition.

Signor Fanfani appeared at a Senate debate on Thursday and yesterday to confirm that his government no longer enjoyed a solid parliamentary majority and faced no alternative but to resign.

Composed of his own Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats and Liberals, the Government is Italy's forty-third since the Second World War and has only been in office for four months.

An election on June 26, one year earlier than would have been necessary, will coincide with partial local elections already set for that date.

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, has taken his party out of the coalition in the hope that it will win more than the 9.8 per cent obtained in the 1979 election.

Signor Fanfani's Government has shown itself incapable of setting the economy on its feet, in spite of an agreement concluded with the trade unions and employers' representatives in January to curb labour costs.

# Azaria's mother loses appeal

From Tony Dubouina, Melbourne

Mrs Lindy Chamberlain is back in jail after her appeal against conviction for the murder of her 10-week-old daughter Azaria was unanimously dismissed by the full bench of the Federal Court in Sydney yesterday. The court also dismissed and appeal by her husband, Pastor Michael Chamberlain, against his conviction for being an accessory after the fact of murder.

Sir Nigel Bowen, the Chief Judge of the Federal Court, announcing the decision, ordered that Mrs Chamberlain be sent to Berrimah jail in Darwin.

Shortly after the court's decision, lawyers for the Chamberlains lodged and application for bail for Mrs Chamberlain.

A court spokesman said that the bail application would be heard in Canberra on Monday. Meanwhile, Mrs Chamberlain will be held in jail at Silverwater, a Sydney suburb.

Mrs Chamberlain was found guilty by a jury of nine men three women in the Northern Territory Supreme Court in Darwin last October on a charge of murdering her daughter Azaria at Ayers Rock in August, 1980, and sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labour. Her husband received an 18 months suspended sentence.

Throughout the trial, one of the most sensational in Australian legal history, Mrs Chamberlain alleged that a dingo (wild dog) had taken the baby from the family's tent. The baby's body has never been recovered.

Mrs Chamberlain was released on bail in November last year for the birth of her daughter Kahliia. Yesterday a spokesman for Mr Doug Everingham, the Northern Territory attorney general, said that Mrs Chamberlain would not be allowed to take Kahliia with her to jail.

Yesterday's judgement came in two parts, one a joint statement of 83 pages from Sir Nigel Bowen and Sir William Forster. The other from Mr Justice Jenkinson took up 150 pages. The two senior judges said that the jury verdict in October meant that they disbelieved the most significant part of the evidence given by Pastor and Mrs Chamberlain.

They said: "whatever may be thought about the importance of seeing and hearing expert scientific witnesses in order to evaluate their testimony, we are in no doubt that in assessing the credibility of the two appellants the jury, who saw and heard them, enjoyed a considerable advantage over this court."

"There is nothing about their evidence when read which compels belief, rather the reverse. If the jury disbelieved them, as they must have done, we are quite unable to say that they were wrong."

# Greece and Turkey try again

From Marie Modiano, Athens

Greece and Turkey have agreed to renew efforts to improve their relations but also to refrain from any action that might prejudice them.

This promising first step towards a rapprochement was made in Strasbourg on Thursday during a two-hour meeting between the foreign ministers of Greece and Turkey, Mr Yiannis Haralambopoulos and Mr Iker Turkmen.

The pledge to abstain from provocative actions is significant, as Greece makes it a condition for the resumption of the diplomatic dialogue.

# Nato wants frigate for the allies

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Plans for a Nato frigate which could suit all member states of the alliance are to be drawn up early next year. This was agreed this week during the regular six-monthly meeting here of the alliance's Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD).

The project, known by the initials NFR (Nato Frigate Requirement), has been under examination for some time already and this week's meeting studied a "pre-feasibility report".

This gave the green light to more detailed work on the idea.

Agreement on a Nato frigate would be a significant move towards standardization of equipment by members of the alliance.

# Turkish poll date

Ankara (AP) - President Kenan Evren of Turkey announced yesterday that a general election for a new 400 member parliament, to mark a full return to civilian rule, will be held on November 6.

# IRA gun-running trial

From Christopher Thomas, New York

Lawyers defending the four men in the big IRA gun-running trial in New York, now entering its final phase, have in the past few weeks been drawing a picture of brutal British tactics in Northern Ireland, in the hope of evoking the sympathy of the jury.

There has been no serious attempt to deny that a gun-running operation was contemplated. The principal defence tactic is to try to establish that the men were working at the behest of the Central Intelligence Agency and therefore, indirectly, with the US Government's approval.

Mr Gabriel Megaw, aged 40, a New York lawyer, was asked if he knew the weapons he was handling would be used against troops on Northern Ireland. He said: "They were going to be used to defend our people against the atrocities of the British Army, to defend the Catholic people, the nationalist people of Ireland."

Miss Carol Amon, the main prosecuting lawyer, pressed Mr Megaw to say if he had sent remote-control devices for bombs that would be used to

# Attempt to prove CIA role

destroy property and individuals. "My people have tried every means, including civil rights marches. We have been left no choice but to fight back, regret it as we may."

Earlier in the trial, defence lawyers convinced Judge Charles Sifton that the Federal Bureau of Investigation should disclose what contacts, if any, there had been with British authorities in preparing the case. The FBI refused and the Judge later told the jury: "The Government of Great Britain has an intense interest in this case, and that interest was communicated to the agents at the inception of the investigation."

It is crucial to the defence case to prove that the gun-running operation had the blessing of the CIA. Last year five admitted IRA gun-runners were acquitted after convincing a New York jury that they believed a man secretly acting for the FBI was a CIA agent.

In that case, the judge told the jury the defendants could be found innocent if they believed the accused had reasonably relied on his apparent authority from the United States Government.

The present case has been marked by a good deal of hostility between lawyers defending Mr Samon Meehan and his brother Colin, and those defending Mr Andrew Duggan and Mr Megaw. Lawyers for the Meehans say their clients were recruited by Mr Megaw, who in turn had been manipulated by the Government's main witness in the case, Mr Michael Hanratty.

Mr Hanratty, a New York electronic surveillance expert, claims he was approached for devices capable of triggering a bomb. He has been subjected to lengthy questioning by defence lawyers, who uncovered a history of petty crime, bankruptcy and a stay in mental hospital.

Mr Duggan has called a Congressman, Mr Benjamin Gilman, as a character witness. Mr Gilman, a member of the House of Representatives, advised his committee on Irish affairs, said he had toured Northern Ireland and visited prisons.

Mr Duggan had visited him often to discuss violations of human rights.

# Bank strike violence in Spain

From Harry Debellus, Madrid

Banks functioned like speaking-cases in parts of Madrid yesterday, the first day of a nationwide one-week strike in which employees are demanding a 12.5 per cent wage increase.

Because of intimidation by roving groups of pickets employees at some branches turned off the lights visible from the street and refused to open the doors to anyone but regular customers.

Most banks, nevertheless, remained open, staffed by the large number of employees who did not join the strike.

There were incidents in Madrid on the eve of the strike, in which windows were smashed and door locks tampered with to prevent opening.

The communist Workers' Commissions and the socialist General Labour Union called the strike to support their demand for a 12.5 per cent pay rise.

The bankers association stood by its previous offer of 9.5 per cent.

# Disgraced officers plan to challenge ruling

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

General Alfonso Armada, former deputy Chief of the Spanish Army, is to appeal to the Constitutional Court against the maximum 30-year sentence imposed on him by the supreme court on Thursday for his role in the 1981 attempted coup, his lawyer confirmed yesterday.

A decree signed by King Juan Carlos is expected to be issued in the next few days dismissing General Armada from his service with dishonour together with Lieutenant General Jaime Milans del Bosch, the former captain general of the Valencia military region, who also received the maximum sentence.

The dismissal of Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the armed Assault on the Cortes on the night of the attempt, and who also received 30 years, will be published in the official Army Gazette.

All three will lose rank, decorations and the right to wear uniform, but will keep their acquired pension rights.

Colonel Tejero's lawyer had already announced that his client will not only appeal to the Constitutional Court, set up in 1978, but also attempt to take his case before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Spain's Constitutional Court will hear the appeals only if it decides basic human rights were infringed.

The Supreme Court, which increased General Armada's original court martial sentence

# Nakasone cultivates his Asian neighbours

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

When Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, Japan's Prime Minister, took office last November, after a battle for power within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, he made a point of telephoning personal greetings to, among others, a number of leaders in Asia.

This was an unprecedented piece of public relations for an incoming Japanese prime minister. Though seemingly a minor gesture, the courtesy calls signalled the start of what was to be an impressive - by past Japanese standards - round of "personal" diplomacy, helping to smooth the way for Mr Nakasone's latest initiative, his first official tour of South-East Asia, starting today.

He scored remarkably high marks in the United States, Japan's most important ally, during his first official visit in January. He arrived in Washington having managed first to repair badly-strained ties with South Korea during an historic trip to Seoul, the first since post-war relations were normalized.

Success in forging personal relations of "trust and friendship" with the leaders of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), as well as Brunei, will no doubt be regarded as one more feather in Mr Nakasone's diplomatic hat.

Coming before next month's Williamsburg summit of top industrial powers, Mr Nakasone apparently also views the Asean trip as a chance, as one commentator put it, to establish clearly his country's identity as "Japan inside Asia" and not as a powerful interloper in a region in which Japan since the Second World War has been regarded with considerable suspicion.

During the 10-day tour, Mr Nakasone will assure Asean - Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines - that Japan intends to remain a peace-loving nation, and to contribute to economic and political stability in the region. He will emphasize improving relations beyond the economic level, where most of Japan's interests so far have centred.

Mr Nakasone, fortunately, will not face anything like the strong anti-Japanese feeling which greeted the first official



Mr Nakasone: Smoothing ruffled feathers.

# Next step on Gibraltar 'up to Britain'

From Our Own Correspondent, Madrid

Spain is willing to fulfil the 1980 Lisbon Agreement on Gibraltar, but Britain must "take the first step", Señor Fernando Moran, the Foreign Minister, declared here yesterday.

"If the United Kingdom takes a gradual approach Spain will do the same, though under no circumstances will it penalize the people of Gibraltar," the minister is reported to have said.

By a gradual approach he was referring to the British attitude towards "decolonization process" for Gibraltar. He contrasted this with the demand that he said Mrs Margaret Thatcher made in London last month, namely that Spain must end all its restrictions on Rock.

He said last December's partial opening of the frontier with Gibraltar had benefited Spain economically.

# Communists in Portugal to exploit May Day

From Susan MacDonald, Lisbon

Tomorrow's big May Day rallies in Portugal are being used by Communist-backed trade unions to celebrate the overthrow of the centre-right Democratic Alliance coalition in last Monday's general election.

The number of Communist Deputies returned to Parliament.

As was the case last year, the Socialist and Communist unions will hold separate rallies in different parts of the country. A year ago, clashes between rival demonstrations in Oporto led to the death of two people.

Details of a report by the Public Prosecutor's Office have just been divulged by the association of Oporto trade unions, which says the document, citing eyewitness testimony, accuses the police of causing the deaths and injuries



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Reign in Spain?

The Spanish newspaper *Diario 16* has an intriguing, nay positively inspired report that the Foreign Office has requested approval for the appointment of Lord Thomas as Britain's next ambassador to Madrid. Thomas, better known as Hugh Thomas, the historian of the Spanish civil war, is chairman of the Centre for Policy Studies, set up by Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph in 1974, and has been a close adviser to the Prime Minister on foreign affairs. Thomas is diplomatically absent from London for a few days; all calls are being referred to a discreetly silent head of the diplomatic service, Sir Antony Acland. Draw your own conclusions.

## What's new

Next week sees the first issue of yet another SDP-Liberal Alliance publishing venture. The monthly *New Democrat* incorporates the former *Alliance* magazine and attempts to replace the fortnightly *Democrat*, which ceased publication at the beginning of February. *Democrat* has left its chairman, Michael Golder, SDP candidate for Gloucester and chairman of the Kennedy Brookes catering chain, struggling to pay off a swathe of debts, though it started by offering an editorial salary so large that even PPS was tempted to apply (see John Taylor's *The Guardian* article to accept the job). *New Democrat* will be much more parsimonious, sharing offices and printers with two small music magazines, *Black Music* and *Blues and Soul*. Its editors, Christopher Layton, formerly of *Alliance*, and Richard Lamb, who used to run the *Liberal New Outlook*, work as volunteers and Lamb tells me: "About £25 per thousand words will be top pay for anybody."

● The Hare and Hounds Inn at Sidbury in Devon advertises a "Children's Room and Monkey Sanctuary."

## Table d'Herut

Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan, whose recent retirement as Israeli chief of staff was not as speedy as the Kahana report on the Sabra and Chatila massacres had suggested it should be, is to be guest of honour at this year's Jerusalem Day festivities in London on May 10, organized by British supporters of Menachem Begin's ruling Herut party. Eitan had also outraged liberal Israelis by commencing sentences of soldiers jailed for killing Arab civilians in occupied territories. Eric Graus, president of British Herut, says: "Anyone can be controversial. We think he is a great man."

## Getting ahead

Staff at the *Daily Express* are keeping careful watch on their new editor, Sir Larry Lamb. Twenty years ago as humble Albert, a sub-editor on the *Daily Mail* he bent over his desk in his hurry to get on, and impaled himself right between the eyes on his copy spike. It took several hours and a hospital visit to get the steel out of his head, but they say time has given him greater dexterity with sharp implements since.

## Cutting remarks

There was hollow laughter at the British Tourist Authority's information centre in St James's when a call came from the Department of Trade to say that a group of visiting dignitaries was expected to enquire about the centre's provision of comprehensive information packs which had been so much appreciated in the past. The centre closed yesterday, as part of budget cuts ordered by the Department of Trade.

● Richard Baker arrived with perfect timing at a studios of *TV-am* just as Fleet Street emerged from Timothy Aitken's press conference. A new signing? The former *BBC* newsreader, now a freelance, regretted not: "This is my son", he explained. "He works here."

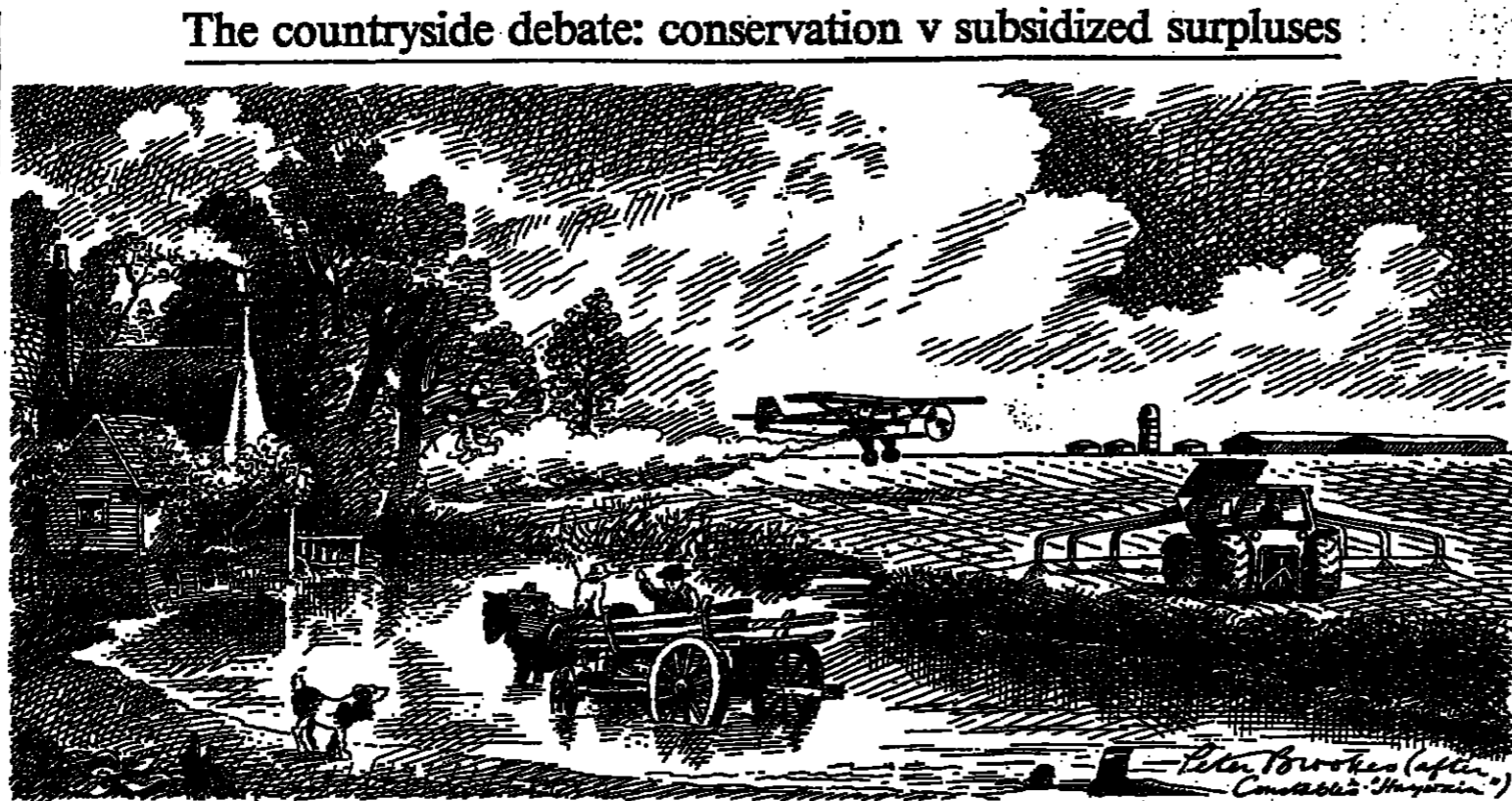
## Roger and out

What Pryce accuracy? Virgin Film's publicity for *The Ploughman's Lunch* apologizes for calling Jonathan Pryce, who is in the film, Roger Pryce, who is not. "This was entirely due to our current preoccupation with the BBC-TV series *Roger Doesn't Live Here Anymore* in which Jonathan plays Roger." It sounds more like a dog's breakfast.

## Brush-off

In a letter published in the March issue of *Good Housekeeping* Joan Bernitz of Brighton expressed the wish that she could fly to Milan regularly to have her hair done. She has now received a letter from M. J. B. Cox, director of Fitzherbert's Hair Artists, her usual stylists, saying that if she admires the Milan hairdressing salons so much, he suggests she patronize those establishments "whose employees may enjoy dealing with you more than do". Her appointment was cancelled, and Cox added: "No further appointments will be taken."

Dingos are innocent, OK? Not only has Lindy Chamberlain's appeal been refused in Australia, but Patrick Skene Catling writes to say that the animal which bit him in Australia (*Diary* April 12) was not a dingo but a domestic terrier. Nor did it get him in the outbreak, leaving a ten-inch scar, but in Todd Street, Alice Springs, nipping his shin. Catling thinks we ought to get this right, for the sake of the Northern Territory's tourist trade.



The countryside debate: conservation v subsidized surpluses

# Must the taxpayer be milked?

## Send the farmer back to market

The main purpose of taking money away from the taxpayer and giving it to the farmer was, we were told when the system began in 1947, to keep people employed on the land. Since then, two things have happened: the number of farmers and farm workers has more than halved and the burden on the taxpayer of supporting those who survived has about doubled in real terms. In cash terms, the cost of agricultural support is 20 times more than it was in 1947.

As the number of farmers declines, and the cost of supporting them mounts, it seems painfully obvious that the system is not working. On top of that, the steady transformation of our countryside, making ever larger parts of our rural counties look like Manitoba or Indiana, is beginning to make the taxpayer wonder whether he is getting value for his millions.

As for the consumer, he now seems to be eating as expensively as anyone in the world. It comes as rather a shock, for example, to sit down in a restaurant in New York and find the prices so much lower than in London.

Yet farmers have been the saddest casualties. Most of the half who have been forced out have been small livestock farmers who were never a burden on the taxpayer. It can be shown clearly that those who have left farming seldom got much out of the taxpayer at all; and as it is taxpayers' money that is reshaping the pattern of British farming and changing the sight and sounds of the countryside, it follows naturally that modern farming is becoming ever more dependent upon the largesse of the rest of us. It is also being made increasingly inefficient, if the badge of an efficient business is its ability to trade profitably without public subsidy.

A political decision has been made that we should grow ever more wheat and other cereals, when both our soil and our climate make it impossible to grow them as

cheaply and efficiently as other countries.

Last week I was in the United States and flew over some of the 83 million acres now being "set aside". It is an area twice the size of the UK's total farmland, and all of it is now to lie fallow. Yet the soil and the climate is almost perfect for the growing of wheat, maize and other grains, at about half the cost here.

The British consumer (including the dairy farmer and the pig and poultry producer) has not indicated a refusal to buy this grain. Instead, a political decision has been made to tax it so heavily, when it enters a British port, that only a limited quantity comes in.

Further support is given to the arable farmer in the form of an export subsidy. As our wheat costs nearly twice as much to produce as that in the United States, the subsidy has to be almost as much as the world price itself. Some of our wheat has been exported this winter as a result that we are now running into a shortage, despite last year's record harvest. It means that this week our livestock producers are being told that the price of animal feed will have to go up yet again. And this year, like last year and every year for the past decade, 2,000 or more of them will go out of business.

This political control over our food market ill serves the farmer, as it does the consumer and taxpayer. One remedy is at hand: to set up a royal commission, comprising some of the clearest brains in the country and farmers' representatives, and invite them to consider whether there is a case for giving taxpayers' money to support agriculture, and if so, how that support should be given.

The conclusion might well be that the present system should be dismantled altogether, that the consumer should be allowed to buy the food of first choice, and the only reason why the public should be coerced into paying money to farmers is to protect and conserve the countryside. The latter task could then be entrusted to the Department of the Environment, which would do the opposite to what the Ministry of Agriculture has been doing for nearly 40 years.

Richard Body

The author is Conservative MP for Holland with Boston.

The authors are taking part in a day of debate on the future of the countryside at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, today

## Bernard Levin: the way we live now

# A passionate insight into the master's mind

There is an ancient Chinese proverb which runs "If the very leaders-writers are going to get in on the act, what will be left for the poor columnist?" For I, too, have been to Alfred Brendel's series of seven recitals at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and I, too, have something to say on the subject. Let us see whether there is enough to go round, somehow, I rather think there will be.

When Brendel played all the Beethoven sonatas last, in 1977, it was an experience that far transcended its qualities as interpretation or even as music; the 32 sonatas comprise an exploration of art and its function so wide, deep and complex that it is almost impossible to believe that it is not a single, comprehensive statement composed in one sustained burst of unimaginably fierce creative energy.

The feeling that the 32 formed a coherent and consciously interconnected whole was derived from Brendel's playing, which built the whole series into just such a statement, each sonata, though true to itself, took its place in the complex family tree of Beethoven's keyboard works. And now Brendel has done it again; the series has just finished.

Note first the venue; the Queen Elizabeth Hall has been packed to its hideous concrete walls for every programme, and on arrival each time I have found an immense queue on the stairs praying fervently for somebody's Aunt Mabel to break a leg on the way to Waterloo. Has Brendel an antipathy to giving a recital in the Festival Hall? I beg him, when he does it again, to move to the house next door, for it seems almost wicked to deprive no fewer than 2,000 people of so huge and uplifting an experience. And those activities are by no means too strong, for the truth about the series is that it was even better than the cycle he gave in 1977, of which I wrote that

...not only is nothing taken for granted, nothing perfunctory or unfeeling; everything seems thought out from first

principles, and everywhere there is a suggestion of surprise in the playing, so that's what Beethoven meant - which has made me feel that player and audience were sharing a series of discoveries.

I would not unsway a word of that, but I feel that the emphasis has shifted. Now, the chief impression left by every one of the programmes takes the form of a conviction of absolute authenticity.

This is not just a negative matter, an absence, say, of excessive *rubato* or of dynamic markings exaggerated or ignored for effect, of grandiose or flamboyant gestures. Brendel's authenticity is of a different order, and it is significant, in this connection, that he is a fanatical pursuer of the *Urtext*; he will never take the word of Breitkopf and Härtel if he can find a photocopy of the manuscript, and I imagine that he wouldn't take the word of the photocopy if he could lay his hands on the manuscript itself.

That is just the beginning, for authenticity is much more than finding what notes the composer wished the performer to play and then playing them. Yet as soon as we leave that safe, literal ground we are in trouble, for who can say how Beethoven wanted his music to sound? (I have heard a record of his keyboard music played on his own piano, but unfortunately it wasn't being played by him.) And even if Beethoven had given detailed instructions for the interpretation of his work, only a doll would be so mechanical as to follow them *and go on following them*, for it is inconceivable that any composer, with the possible exception of Max Reger, would believe that a work once written is fixed for ever like a fly in amber, and that any subsequent deviation from the canonical reading is heresy; a true artist realizes, if only because he has experienced it in the case of works by others, that his art is not static but dynamic, and that it changes, despite the fact that it was created long before, as time goes by and feelings shift.

So it has been throughout; he even played *For Elise* as an encore one night with not a soul in the hall but had heard it murdered a thousand times by the neighbours' daughter, and in consequence most wholeheartedly wished it dead and buried, along with the daughter. I tell you Brendel played it with as much fresh beauty and tenderness as

## Wanted: a better spread of money

The inequities of the "voluntary" system of wild life conservation introduced by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 - in reality a system of expensive bribes to try to persuade a few lucky farmers to protect a small number of select sites - could be ended by extending the system we use to control anti-social development in urban areas. Planning controls, with no compensation if developments are prevented in the public interest, should be extended to cover major agricultural and forestry developments. But we will still be left with the present crazy system where tiny amounts of taxpayers' money available for conservation are pitted against the huge sums taxpayers are also providing for agriculture.

One answer to this would be simply to stop providing subsidies or support for farming, leaving us free to import food on world markets, and allowing market forces to determine the price our own farmers receive for their produce. The result would be disastrous for British agriculture, and for the British countryside. We are now so far down the road of capital intensive, industrial farming that only the biggest and richest farmers would survive.

In the uplands agriculture would more or less come to an end, and the lowlands would be dominated by a few huge agribusinesses. The interests of small farmers (or the Labour Party) would be neglected, and we need more people working in the countryside, to care for it and revitalize the rural economy.

The answer is to maintain the existing level of public support for agriculture, but to spend the money very differently. How this could be done is detailed in a report by Clive Potter, *Investing in Rural Harmony*, available from the World Wildlife Fund.

Briefly, an alternative system of agricultural support would aim to continue support for food production on land already intensively farmed, but a number of new objectives would be added. Support

would be used to create new jobs, to encourage traditional farming in areas where this is important for wildlife or the landscape, to give more help to small, poor and part-time farmers, and less to the big and rich.

Instead of promoting policies diametrically opposed to conservation, agricultural support would promote a reasonable level of food production, while integrating conservation into the day-to-day management of every farm.

Money would be saved by spending far less on grants for capital investment - investment in land improvement is the source of much of the present conflict in the countryside. Some capital expenditure - subject to much more rigorous scrutiny - would continue to be grant-aided, for example improvements in drainage for land already intensively farmed.

The system of farm development plans - already in use - should be extended to include a much broader view of the type of development qualifying for support, to include support for conservation on the farm, and to include a much wider range of farms.

Current efforts to reduce the price of cereals relative to livestock would continue, but overall, price support should play a less significant role, with more farmers being influenced by a more finely-tuned grant-aid system. Controls on the level of production of some products could be extended.

Finally, the system of headage payments on livestock should be modified, and extended. The modifications would include an upper limit on payments - our current open-ended payments are encouraging false economies of scale and thereby the destruction of small farms, particularly in the uplands. Conditions on stocking densities are also needed.

The public will not continue to agree to pour huge sums of money into farming simply to produce ever greater surpluses. If agriculture is to continue to receive the same level of support from the taxpayers as it has in the past, the objectives on which the money is spent must be radically changed.

Peter Melchett

Lord Melchett farms in Norfolk, chairs the Socialist Countryside Group and is President of the Ramblers' Association.

# Swapping bouquets of barbed wire across the border

Michael Binyon

It is not a pleasant experience crossing the East German border. In my case the customs official was apparently friendly. But his banter became increasingly pointed: where had I spent the day in East Berlin and with whom? Had I been to the GDR before, known anyone there already? Names please, and addresses. And then I was beckoned into a small room and asked to turn out my pockets and my wallet. What were these papers, was this money accounted for?

The tone was correct but intimidating. I felt menaced by unspoken threats, by suggestions of undefined guilt, and when everything was eventually given back and I was politely wished goodbye, I found I was trembling.

For West Germans the experience is often far worse. Travellers to West Berlin, people visiting relatives, are tolerated but not welcome in East Germany, and the brusque, often rough manner of the border officials, and the lengthy formalities are intended to make this clear. Many people find the atmosphere oppressive, and those who indeed transgress the complex regulations, deliberately or unintentionally, experience a sudden rush of fear.

For two West Germans this has recently had fatal consequences, and their heart attacks have had far-reaching effects. The chain reaction, started by the country hero, Dieter Rudolf Burkert's mysterious head injuries, led to loudly trumpeted charges of murder by Herr Franz Josef Strauss and his conservative admirers, which in turn provoked a furious counter-reaction from East Berlin, culminating in the abrupt cancellation of a planned visit by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader.

In the space of two weeks the delicate web of relationships linking the two countries, 10 years of patient cultivation of grudging trust, have been torn to pieces. The hardeners on both sides of the border have won a sudden and unexpected victory.

Chancellor Kohl must be furious. He believes strongly in keeping the dialogue alive, in the continuity of the "special relationship" that was beginning to grow up across the East-West divide and survived even the change of government in Bonn. But events moved too quickly for him. His old rival, Herr Strauss, still smarting from his worsening in the coalition negotiations, saw his chance and ran with it. The festering antagonism between the Christian Social Union and the Free Democrats broke out into the open, and the Honecker visit became the focal point of a public slanging match. Dr Kohl's avuncular calls on everyone to calm down were drowned in the din.

Are we back in a new ice-age? Will East Germany again become the forbidden land, the self-isolated enemy of the capitalist West, rebuffing all attempts at closer links, at more widespread human contacts? Already there are fears that the

1971 transit agreement on access to West Berlin may come under strain, that hopes of a reduction in the compulsory sum western visitors have to exchange on entry will be dashed, that progress in talks on joint environmental protection measures and a possible cultural treaty will be stalled. The inter-German détente that survived Afghanistan and - with more difficulty - Poland appears to have foundered on its enemies' rhetoric, on the opportunistic exploitation of two heart attacks.

In fact the outlook is not quite so gloomy. A return by Bonn to the old policies of *all or nothing*, to the demands of German unity and free elections in the East, is out of the question. There may be a diplomatic shift, some sharp and timely words to East Berlin about easing restrictions on human contact if it still wants the vast financial aid it is now getting. But the *Basic Treaty* with the GDR remains the framework for relations. And most people have realized that the cherished aim of improving the lot of fellow Germans "over there" can be achieved only in an atmosphere in which the East does not again feel threatened morally, politically, ideologically and economically - by its powerful western neighbour.

On the eastern side, dependence on the West to maintain living standards, especially at a time of economic crisis in all Eastern Europe, is now so great that East Berlin cannot afford to break off contacts and contracts. It has also come to see itself in an all-German

**'Will East Germany again become the forbidden land, the self-isolated enemy of the capitalist West, rebuffing all attempts at closer links and human contacts?'**

context; not politically, of course, but culturally and spiritually. Ordinary people feel part of the western world by proxy. They take part vicariously in the debates and social currents now sweeping West Germany. And the leaders have concluded that it is not possible to consolidate the East German state - always a principal aim - on a basis of opposition to West Germany.

East Germany has long given high priority to stability between the two states. It has been drawn willy-nilly into the process of "coming together", which has performed to replace the unrealizable dream of German unity. Herr Honecker probably knew that a visit here at this stage would set back rather than advance the cautious rapprochement he is clearly anxious to continue. And when time and face will allow, both sides will quietly pick up the pieces from this week's debacle.

Gillian Tindall

# More than just a right to die

Two years ago, when the sensational Exit trial was pending and the Voluntary Euthanasia Society was in disarray, the police raided the society's office, seized copies of its booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, and arrested "briefly, and with embarrassment - its then chairman, Lord Beaumont.

The society was told that it would be prosecuted if it continued to distribute the booklet; it continued unimpaired - though, as always, only by mail order to *bona fide* members aged at least 25.

It is an indication of the haze of uncertainty surrounding the whole concept of "aiding an abetting suicide" that in fact no prosecution followed: an injunction was threatened but that was not implemented either, and finally the Attorney General settled for a simple declaration of the matter in the civil courts. This was heard last week, but turned out to be a further installment in the saga of unknowing the judge, Mr Justice Woolf, gave a judgment which was seemingly favourable to the VES cause, but pronounced himself unable to grant a declaration without further discussion.

The question remains unanswered, but will not cease to be asked: where exactly does the concerned third party stand, legally, in relation to what one of last week's counsel called "the sovereign, unalienable and absolute right to die"?

Much of last week's inconclusive argument hinged on whether or not the dissemination of *general* knowledge and advice about methods of suicide constitutes the aiding and abetting of an individual, which the law has traditionally punished. Less attention was paid to what some observers have felt to be a more fundamental question - namely, whether one can logically be said criminally to abet an act which is not in itself a crime.

The concept of suicide as a felony was a hangover from Ecclesiastical law. Its repeal in 1961 was uncontroversial; no one any longer wished to punish the failed suicide, any more than they wished to bury the successful in unconsecrated ground with a stake through the heart. The consequences of removing the crime from the statute books but retaining the surrounding legislation do not seem then to have been envisaged. It is significant of the *ad hoc* nature of British law that, in Scotland, where the abetting section did not and does

not exist, and therefore it has been possible to publish the booklet north of the border without fear of trouble.

Life and death are issues notoriously unamenable to parochial legislation. Effectively, countries cannot make their own rules without reference to neighbouring countries: an arbitrary prohibition (anti-abortion law, for example) simply sends the determined on short trips elsewhere.

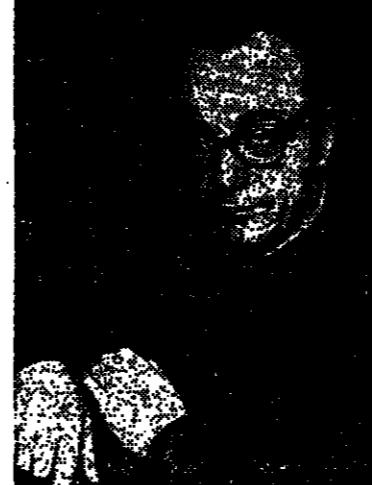
Britain is not the only country where the whole topic of self-determination at life's end is up for debate. In Roman Catholic France a book called *Suicide: Mode d'Emploi* is on open sale to anyone, and contains a how-to-do-it chapter largely plagiarized from the VES guide. More than 100,000 copies have been sold. Despite some frantic allegations by individuals, there is no evidence that the suicide rate has risen sharply in consequence, and no sign of a state attempt at intervention.

Similar literature is on sale in Holland, West Germany, Switzerland and in some states in America. From America in March came the report of a presidential commission on medical ethics which had been sitting for two years; its main conclusions leaned heavily in the direction of patients' own decisions being respected, "even when they lead to earlier death", and envisaged the possibility of some decisions being taken in principle and in advance.

The idea that the continuation or termination of life is an individual's own business and not a matter of public morality is now widely accepted; it is the practice that is proving difficult to implement.

What we are seeing is, I would submit, not a debate about suicide at all. That takes place in the privacy of the heart. Last week's case was about the freedom of knowledge. Experience in other fields has shown that you cannot, with the best intentions in the world, prevent people from gaining access to common sense information if that is what they want.

Behind the VES pressure lies a passionate desire not for death but for independence, for honesty, for not being pushed about to gratify other people's moral sensibilities. Whatever your moral philosophy, the possible long-term results of this demand, it is hard to deny that the impulse behind it is a healthy one.



Brendel: creating an impression of absolute authenticity

he brought to the *Appassionata* itself.

All the way through we have been transfixed not by the performer's art but by the composer's - the last, and the most searching, of all. Brendel vanishes behind the music; it is almost true to say that if you shut your eyes you miss nothing. What you gain is a journey, in Brendel's company, through Beethoven's genius, a journey of 32 milestones on each of which is carved passion, understanding, joy, hope, confidence, beauty, power, together with suffering and darkness, and, at the last, a serenity which is not of this world, but which Beethoven has been trusted to bring down to us from his own Sinai of despair to defeat.

The series finished on Wednesday, it ended, fittingly, with Beethoven's last sonata, the Op. 111. As that final, infinite chord died away, there was a long, rapt silence before the applause began; we all felt, as Brendel does, that after the Op. 111 there is nothing more to say (it was the only one of the recitals at which he played no encore). But when the applause did begin it was heartfelt and prolonged; Beethoven's ultimate triumph had commended itself to us with such force and urgency because of the way in which Alfred Brendel played the work. I was one of some 1,100 people in the hall; I hope none of the others will think me presumptuous if I say that I am speaking for us all when I say to the pianist: thank you.

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مكتبة الأمل





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## THE ISSUE'S THE THING

The debate over unilateral nuclear disarmament is one of the critical issues of our time. No other question relates more directly to the continued existence of this country and its way of life. Strong passions are inevitably aroused, and when feelings run high political argument cannot always be conducted at the most elevated level. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the exchanges are now focusing upon personalities as well as upon policies.

To some extent this is not only inevitable but legitimate. It is relevant to point out that a high proportion of those who are prominent in the leadership of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are people of the far left in one form or another. The political background of the leaders must be a factor in the way that the campaign is conducted, and there is no reason why this knowledge should be denied either to those who support CND or to the public at large.

But it would be wrong to pretend that this fact settles the argument. CND has become a significant popular movement which is supported by a great many people who are not of the far left. They are idealistic or anxious, or both. They have a right to know who leads the movement, but that knowledge is unlikely to change the judgment of most of them. They will believe that the issue transcends the personalities, and essentially they are right.

Unilateral nuclear disarmament would be damaging to this country not because it is advocated by the far left, but because the policy is based upon a profound misconception of western security and the nature of international affairs. A course of action that would reduce the pressure on the Soviet Union to negotiate on disarmament, that would put the Atlantic Alliance in jeopardy, that would make it doubtful whether the American nuclear umbrella was still held

over the United Kingdom, that would leave Britain without the means of defence and exposed to nuclear blackmail, would not make this country a more confident or safer place.

It is on the grounds of national security, peace - a desire for which is not the monopoly of the unilateralists - and the best means of securing disarmament all round that the issue deserves to be settled. It is ultimately on these grounds that the issue will be settled, simply because the question is of such importance that public opinion will ultimately be convinced only by what it believes to be the merits of the case. That cries of "smear" and "counter-smear" should now read the air is evidence not so much of triviality as of the magnitude of the battle. But the more the debate can be concentrated on the substance of the policy, the better it will be for the country. It will also be the better tactics for each side to play the ball and not the man.

## THE WRONG COURTS

Two separate court decisions this week have spotlighted a disturbing legal trend. It is the growing use of the civil courts to enforce the criminal law. In the first decision, involving a trio of cases under the Shops Act 1950, the Court of Appeal held that local authorities were entitled to bring civil proceedings for an injunction to restrain shopkeepers from unlawful Sunday trading. In the second, a High Court judge refused an application by the Attorney General for a declaration that the distribution of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society's booklet, *A Guide to Self-Deliverance*, was an offence under the Suicide Act 1961. Significantly, it was stated in the proceedings that the Attorney General had originally envisaged seeking an injunction against the defendants as well as a declaration, but that he had later changed his mind because he expected that the Society would in fact observe the terms of any declaration granted by the court.

In practice to cases where an offence was frequently repeated in disregard of a usually inadequate penalty, or to cases of emergency. The applications were few, and were sometimes brought ex-officio by the Attorney General and sometimes at the request of bodies such as local authorities.

The Local Government Act, 1972 for the first time gave local authorities a power to institute civil proceedings for an injunction in their own name, wherever they considered it expedient to do so for the promotion or protection of the interests of local inhabitants. Since then, injunctions granted by the civil courts at the behest of local authorities have apparently proliferated. In last week's Sunday trading case, a firm of solicitors told the Court of Appeal that the power to apply for an injunction was commonly and indeed daily invoked by local authorities in such cases as planning and public health, that they themselves had been involved in several hundred applications to restrain breaches of the Shops Act over the last few years, and that they knew of no case where an injunction had been refused after proof that the defendant in question intended to proceed with the illegal trading in spite of the criminal penalties provided by the act. So what started out as an exceptional remedy, to be invoked by the Attorney General only with

the utmost caution, has now apparently become the common currency of the courts.

Using the civil courts to enforce the criminal law is an extremely dangerous exercise. It puts the defendant in double jeopardy. If an injunction is issued against him, and he breaks the injunction by committing the offence, he is liable not only to be prosecuted in the criminal courts but also to be subjected by the civil courts to unlimited penalties for contempt of court. Further, although in the criminal proceedings he has the advantage of the high standard of proof required of every prosecution, he is deprived of this benefit in the contempt proceedings. And there is a risk that a finding by the judge in the civil case that the defendant is in contempt may prejudice his chances of acquittal in the proceedings.

The case against the Voluntary Euthanasia Society highlights a further drawback to this method of proceeding. In a serious case (not the kind of case which would normally fall within a local authority's responsibilities), where the crime which is the subject matter of the injunction is tryable on indictment, the defendant is deprived of his constitutional right to be tried by a jury. That is plainly unacceptable, and was recognized as such by Mr Justice Woolf in the High Court case.

## LIMOUSINES OF FIRE

The division bell had sounded, and all members within direct or electric earshot were hastening loyally to the Chamber to cast their votes within the seven minutes that the bell allows. Mr Edward Heath had sprung into his car at the signal and was cruising towards Parliament with minutes to spare (this was last Wednesday, by the way). But only a hundred yards from the Palace of Westminster he was brought to a halt: it was the police, clearing a way for the Queen-Mother as she rode to a reception at Fishmongers' Hall. Mr Heath had to wait four minutes before his car was allowed to proceed. By then the doors of the voting lobbies had been closed. Fortunately the Government did not fall because of this mishap - in fact it had forty clear votes to play with. But it is the principle of the thing that counts.

problem: there has long been intermittent controversy in Westminster about the constitutionality of the Bridge Street traffic lights, which contribute to a greater average smoothness of access by MPs, but only at the cost in individual cases of facilitating the approach of some Members by barring it to others, with potentially dangerous discriminatory effect.

On Wednesday the obstruction was especially grave for it was committed not by just anybody but by (or at least in the interests of) royalty. It is scarcely too much to say that the Civil War was fought, or at least brought to a head, over this very issue. Royalty is not to detain, waylay or beguile MPs on their way to settle the destinies of the nation.

But one question remains. The present world record for the hundred yards dash is something under ten seconds. Even a knight in full armour or a dowager constrained by her hereditary crimes could normally be expected to cover the distance, glowing perhaps, within two minutes. Mr Heath had the option of leaving car and driver and proceeding to the lobby at a decorous trot not inconsistent

with the dignity of a Privy Councillor. Some MPs did exactly that on Wednesday.

But at exactly this point of the argument, Erskine May wavers and becomes uncertain. Undoubtedly Mr Heath had a right to advance unobstructed, but it is by no means clear that this right extended to his car. The most relevant analogy is perhaps the right formerly possessed by servants of MPs to all their masters' privileges - to run up debts, thumb their noses at subpoenas, and no doubt to approach the House. But this transferred right was extinguished, or more properly passed over in silence, by the Parliamentary Privilege Act of 1970. It seems that car and driver have no claim to passage except insofar as they facilitate the MP's own approach - which in this case they seem rather to have obstructed. But without delving into the further implications for privilege that this opens up, it is enough to let the case stand as a reminder to selection committees, where vacancies for the next election still exist, of the advantages of a candidate who can put in a bit of leg-work on occasion, and is not above doing so.

grant to the second what has been refused to the first and thus be drawn into party political conflict. Exactly this occurred in Canada in 1926 - except that it was the Governor General, Lord Byng, who was involved and not the King. The constitutional principle, then, is that the Prime Minister has a de facto right to a dissolution. After the indecisive election result of 1974, I understand that there was no possibility of Mr Harold Wilson being refused a dissolution had he asked for one.

The moral to draw from all this is that just as England, as Mr Disraeli said, "does not love coalitions", nor does she care for hung parliaments. An indecisive election could well lead on to a further immediate election which the voters would certainly not welcome. This is a good argument for resisting the temptation to vote for a third party. Our system is geared to two parties, not to three.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
NORMAN ST JOHN STEVAS,  
House of Commons,  
April 28.

## Third-party issue

From Mr Norman St John Stevas, MP for Chelmsford (Conservative)

Sir, You reported in your column on Monday (April 25) that on a television broadcast on the previous day Mr Steel let it be known that he had entered into a private arrangement with Mr Roy Jenkins by which, when the election comes, Mr Steel will lead the campaign for the Alliance and Mr Jenkins will have the consolation prize of the title "Prime Minister designate".

Under English law you can call yourself what you like, and it may please Mr Jenkins to have a leading part in a political charade, but no one should be misled into thinking that such hubris-provoking dispositions have any constitutional effect.

In a parliamentary situation where no one party has a clear majority it is entirely a matter for the Queen as to whom she sends for, provided only that she is of the opinion that her Prime Minister designate can secure a majority for his programme in the House of

Commons. No self-conferred title, however sonorous or portentous can affect that.

Mr Steel further appears to be of the opinion that if a Prime Minister appointed in such circumstances fails to command a majority in the House of Commons he would have no right to a dissolution. That view was taken in theory by Queen Victoria, but in practice she never refused a dissolution.

Edward VII granted Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman an immediate dissolution when he formed his government in 1905 and in 1909 granted Asquith the same right when the Budget was rejected by the Lords. There is no example of a dissolution having been refused to an incumbent Prime Minister by a British Sovereign in well over 100 years.

In theory the Sovereign can dispense with the advice of an incumbent Prime Minister if he can find an alternative. The danger of this course is that the second Prime Minister may also be unable to command a majority in the Commons and the Sovereign obliged to

## Needs of blind phone users

From the Director General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind

Sir, The Royal National Institute for the Blind is concerned that the special needs of blind telephone users, including blind office workers, should not be overlooked in the Telecommunications Bill when it is discussed in Committee in the House of Lords on May 5.

The Bill provides fairly wide-ranging powers to meet the needs of disabled telephone subscribers, but over 1,200 blind people earn their living as telephonists, using adapted switchboards with pulsing pins or synthetic speech instead of flashing lights and digital displays. Many more blind office workers, such as secretaries, have to use multi-line telephones.

Privatisation of the telecommunications industry is likely to mean that more manufacturers, both British and foreign, will be marketing new equipment in the UK. We believe that it is essential to help so many blind workers to keep their jobs that the Telecommunications Bill should be amended to include in particular in the definition of a consumer disabled people who use telecommunications services or equipment at work.

We do not feel that the Bill, as it stands at present, gives the Secretary of State and the proposed Director General of the Office of Telecommunications sufficient powers to enforce a requirement that all telephone apparatus sold in the United Kingdom should be readily adaptable to the needs of blind employees.

There are many blind telephonists in other European countries and the Commonwealth. If the need for adaptability is taken into account at the design stage, there should be little or no additional cost. Indeed, British manufacturers should find such a requirement a sales aid rather than a hindrance.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind is concerned, too, that to meet the needs of blind people and other disabled groups, telephone operator services, including the directory inquiry service, should continue to be freely available.

I hope that readers in a position to do so will support the amendments to the Bill designed to meet these points when they come up in the House of Lords.

Yours faithfully,  
E. J. VENN, Director General,  
Royal National Institute for the Blind,  
224 Great Portland Street, W1,  
April 28.

## Special Commissioners

From Mr C. W. Koenigsberger

Sir, The Finance Bill contains the welcome reform whereby the Special Commissioners will in future be appointed by the Lord Chancellor instead of by the Treasury. This change underlines their independence and the judicial nature of their functions. It is therefore the more remarkable that the procedural rules for which the Bill also provides are to be made by the Board of Inland Revenue, a body which is a party in virtually every dispute determined by this tribunal.

Notwithstanding that the rules may be vetted by the Council on Tribunals before being submitted to Parliament, it is surely a retrograde step to make it appear as if the Board of Inland Revenue exercises supervisory functions over the Special Commissioners.

I can see no good reason why this tribunal should not make its own rules; but if for any reason that suggestion is unacceptable the Lord Chancellor is obviously the appropriate person to do so.

Yours faithfully,  
C. W. KOENIGSBERGER,  
10 Old Square,  
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,  
April 24.

## Where credit's due

From Mr Mike Faber

Sir, A main pleasure of following cricket in the newspapers is the comprehensive picture of play given by the scorecard. But there is one type of event, of increasing importance, in the description of which the scorecard is defective. That is the run out.

No matter how brilliant the feat, no matter how decisive the incident, the perpetrator of it remains anonymous. It is as if the early designer of the scorecard assumed that run outs only happened through the idiocy of the batsmen, and the less said about that the better.

Could you not persuade your Cricket Correspondent to take the lead in remedying this defect?

The convention, "RO Parker: Gould", or "RO Parker" if he did it unassisted, would convey over a season lots more information at the cost of little extra space.

And while he is about it, he should right the wrong hitherto inflicted on the substitute fielder. "C/sub" is unworthy. Your Football Correspondent does not treat Mr Fairclough of Liverpool, that way. "C/Smith" would do it.

Yours etc,  
MIKE FABER,  
Swarborough Manor,  
Swarborough, Lewes, Sussex.

## Eastern mystery?

From Mr T. V. Hart

Sir, Today I received a correctly addressed Christmas card from Rangoon, postmarked October 6, 1981.

In Denmark there is a saying that Christmas lasts until Easter.

Can anyone tell me for how long Christmas lasts in Burma?

Yours faithfully,  
T. V. HART,  
Hill Cottage, 3 Birds Hill Drive,  
Oxshott, Surrey,  
April 23.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### CND and Prague peace conference

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, The silly season is on us. It is said that employees of the Ministry of Defence have assisted in the ransacking of the private histories of citizens on the national council of CND in order to issue to the public the shattering news that this one is a "dedicated Bennite" and these others resigned from the Communist Party as recently as 28 years ago. I did not know that this is what we paid public servants to do.

Last week I learned that Mr Heseltine had been on the transatlantic phone to the Secretary for Defence of the most powerful nation on earth and had warned him that "the Government" would be embarrassed if he were to fulfil a debating engagement in the Oxford Union at the end of May. As a result Mr Caspar Weinberger agreed, with some reluctance, to withdraw.

This was, in an old-fashioned way, an extraordinary and improper intervention by a minister of government in the affairs of a private society - and also, since the debate was to be televised, in the affairs of the media. But we have to remember that Mr Heseltine is an enthusiast for "modernisation".

And now we have your own odd editorial (April 21) on the decision of CND's national council to send observers to the forthcoming conference in Prague. You take this as evidence of communist "enthusiasm" in CND, whose positions you go on to describe as being "identical with those of the extremist left in Britain".

Of course, if you (and Mr Heseltine) redefine the "extremist left" in such a way as to take in half the Liberal Party, all the Labour Party, ecologists, most church and chaplains, a great part of the medical and academic professions, and much more, then you must be right. And it follows that our modernisers will be finding a great deal of fresh work for the phone-tappers and security services.

I was one of the large minority on CND's national council who opposed CND's attendance at Prague. But I can assure Mr Ray Whitney (April 25) that the council's proceedings are in no way "mysterious". There was a fair and open debate. And the council took the view, by a small majority, that a boycott would be counter-productive, and that whatever the formal proceedings might be like there would be opportunities to

meet with the delegates from many countries, informally, within and without the conference hall.

Mr Whitney writes that "the World Peace Council is an instrument for one-way propaganda rather than two-way communication". I concur. I have been wondering, over the past year, whether the same is not true of the editorial pages of *The Times*.

Fortunately it is still possible, in the letter page, for a dissenting view to be registered. CND's observers, when attending Prague, are looking for a similar space.

Yours faithfully,  
E. P. THOMPSON,  
Wick Episcopi,  
Upper Wick,  
Worcester,  
April 25.

### From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, What matters about British participation in the World Peace Council meeting in Prague is surely not whether members of the British nuclear disarmament movement go there but what they do there.

When representatives of the radical wing of the British movement went to the World Peace Council meeting in Moscow in July, 1962, they did not just let themselves be manipulated by the media of the East or be insulted by the media of the West; they circulated leaflets among the local people and organized a demonstration in Red Square which was authoritatively described as "the most direct challenge to official Soviet policies and ideas to have been presented to the Soviet man in the street since freedom of speech died under Stalin" (Victor Zorza in *The Guardian*, July 12, 1962).

If representatives of the radical wing of the British movement go to Prague and do something similar 21 years later - at the same time marking the fifteenth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia - they could challenge the militarist policies of both East and West more effectively than the official spokesman, their supporters in the media, or the orthodox peace campaigners of either side.

We believe in direct communication as well as direct action in both directions, and in going where we can and doing what we can, regardless of sneers and smears.

NICOLAS WALTER,  
88 Islington High Street, NI.

### Election fever

From Lord Campbell of Croy

Sir, In the nine general elections since 1950 the periods between the announcement and polling day were less than six weeks. In six of them, the notice given was less than five weeks. On the occasion when a Prime Minister decided to make a statement that a general election would not be held in the autumn, it was done (by Mr Callaghan in September, 1978) at the same kind of notice, within six weeks of the expected polling day in October.

Under this system of ours, which has the virtue of avoiding long election campaigns, a Prime Minister should not be expected to announce a general election months beforehand, as has been suggested in some quarters earlier this year. Once the timing of a general election was certain, campaigning would inevitably begin soon afterwards.

The present practice in this

country, accepted by most of the political institutions, is to arrange for campaigns in each constituency during a general election to be concentrated into three weeks or less. Indeed, the amounts of money, limited by law, for the election expenses of each candidate seem designed to cater for this arrangement.

It may be argued that we should change to a better system. Constitutional changes could be made through Parliament, including the adoption of a fixed period between general elections leading to long campaigning approaches to polling day. ("Fever" might then be replaced by chronic indigestion.)

Until such a change is made, accusations of irresolution or dithering, because the options are being kept open, are entirely misplaced.

Yours faithfully,  
CAMPBELL OF CROY,  
House of Lords,  
April 26.

### Parliamentary terms

From Mr Philip Wright

Sir, May I be allowed, please, to express a different view from that expounded in your leading article, "Timing it right" (April 16)?

You say, "one of the defects of the British political system since the war has been the frequency of changes of direction in government policy". In my experience what concerns most of us is not the frequency but the nature and extent of such changes. How can we plan with confidence or enthusiasm our futures when the economic and social structures within which we operate are liable to drastic change at the hands of successive governments?

The answer to this problem lies not in lengthening the parliamentary term. Indeed the discontent now manifested in strikes and demonstrations could become intolerable if the electoral safety valve were kept shut even longer.

Should we not be asking why these wasteful changes occur? Why should small, often gradual shifts in popular opinion be allowed to

trigger off major changes in government policy?

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP WRIGHT,  
8 Stour Avenue,  
Northwood Green,  
Southall,  
Middlesex.

### From Mr Stanley Arthur

Sir, Would the protagonists of the fixed parliamentary term say what would happen if the Government lost a confidence motion in the House of Commons; or if the Government - with a majority in the House so that it could defeat any alternative Government - decided to resign?

The fact is that a fixed parliamentary term is not possible without fundamental changes in constitutional procedure, and particularly in the functions of Parliament.

Yours faithfully,  
STANLEY ARTHUR,  
Moreton House,  
Longborough,  
Moreton-in-Marsh,  
Gloucestershire,  
April 24.

### Teachers' pay

From Mr Peter Targett

Sir, I write to give wholehearted support to your first leader's timely appeal (April 12) for teachers' salary scales to be more directly linked to the quality of their teaching performance.

Such a reform is long overdue because the present system of scale posts, devised for different times and different circumstances, has been overtaken by the passage of time and is now too cumbersome, limited and inflexible to deal effectively and fairly with contemporary requirements.

Standards should be drawn up by the DES and other relevant bodies and the Government should make additional funds available for a nationally-allocated "quality award" for every teacher who reaches the grade. Three or four levels would be appropriate, teachers would be "MoT'd" periodically, and the award withdrawn if the relevant standard were not reached.

I would not want the awards only to be made to those gifted teachers "who can work miracles with a big class crammed into a Nissen hut with a blackboard and chalk". The enterprising is but one of many roles that teachers play. A gifted teacher may well have a less flamboyant, less immediately striking style.

## How child thieves get away with it

From Mr J. F. Rutter

Sir, I spent some time investigating gangs of young gypsies similar to those described by Miss Patricia O'Brien (April 27). They operate not only in Paris but in fashionable resorts in the South of France.

The main part of the gang usually numbers about 10 and includes one who is in his or her late teens and who acts as leader. It is not easy to keep the gypsies under close observation. They walk at speed down streets frequented by tourists and behind them, at a distance of about 30 yards, is a lookout. If anyone is keeping pace with the gang they suspect that they are being followed and the lookout signals to the others, who then turn up a side street and run away.

In addition to the lookout there are usually two gypsy men in their twenties at some distance who are there to supervise.

The leader in the main body points out a victim, who is either a lady or a gentleman of an age at which he is not expected to run. All the gang start to paw the victim from all sides at a time when he or she has been distracted by the cardboard message to which Miss O'Brien referred. One gypsy is opening a handbag or going through pockets, but this is usually not felt because of the contact with other parts of the body by the pawing, which continues for about 20 seconds.

Once the robbery has taken place the members of the gang suddenly stop and walk away towards the nearest turning and then start to run. Often the victim does not realize that the robbery has taken place until the gypsies are out of sight.

During a chase of one such gang following a robbery franc notes to the value of several hundreds of pounds fell from the sleeve of one of the gypsies. Shortly after that a square was reached, where the gang split up and ran in different directions. The oldest teenager was pursued across three streets and caught and handed to the French police and was in due course prosecuted.

Yours truly,  
J. F. RUTTER,  
St. Audreys,  
Wincenton, Somerset,  
April 27.

## Patriots of the air

From the Chairman of The Save England Crusade

Sir, May I congratulate you for your "Pigeon English" photograph (April 25), portraying a pigeon, with my wife and myself, at our St George's Day rally. This pigeon is actually the Officer Commanding the thousand-strong Trafalgar Square contingent of the Pigeon English Corps, who are some of the most dedicated devotees of St George, as one would expect from their close association with Admiral Lord Nelson.

Soon after your photograph was taken I made a stirring call for St George's Day to be made a public holiday in England, with national celebrations in which, for one day at least, our political, racist and other differences could be forgotten and we could all celebrate together as one community, as in days of old of "Merrie England". This was of course directed in the main to the large crowd of humans who, incidentally, are not shown in your photograph, being not behind me, but well in front behind the crash barriers, and it brought forth loud cheers and prolonged clapping in support.

Not to be outdone, thereupon, in a mass flight of acclamation, the Pigeon English, every one of the huge contingent, taking wing, swooped low over the crowd and gave the most magnificent fly-past that I have ever been privileged to see in some 30 meetings I have held in this great arena. In England today not only is there a new St George spirit about among the humans but among the Pigeon English, too.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK HANSFORD-MILLER,  
Chairman,  
The Save England Crusade,  
76 Lock Chase,  
Blackheath, SE3.

## Flight of fancy

From Dr J. B. Barbour

Sir, Captain Hamilton suggests (April 23) that a duck freezing into a pond belongs to the realm of Ambrose Bierce. But in the winter before last a similar fate all but overtook our Muscovies on the brook.

After several days of intense cold, wearily padding around in the last remaining stretch of clear water, I found them one morning in a pathetic state, with lumps of ice as big as cricket balls attached to their wings and tails. The rescue operation was cold and hazardous, but the geese were saved.

Having always thought their name indicated a Muscovite origin, I was surprised to find they could barely cope with a mere 22°C. However, the dictionary explains that the name derives from musk and they are in fact native from Mexico to southern Brazil.

The geese coped with no trouble with the night when Oxfordshire was the coldest place in Europe, but we had to keep the ducks shut up.

Yours etc,  
JULIAN B. BARBOUR,  
College Farm,  
South Newington,  
Banbury, Oxfordshire.

## Financial constraint

From Ruth Ellacott

Sir, I am very disappointed with the new £1 coin. I can't get it through the hole in the top of my money box.

RUTH ELLACOTT (8),  
141 Wilbury Road,  
Leitchworth, Hertfordshire,  
April 27.

## Europe as an entity

From Mr Barney Trench

Sir, Implicit in your editorial on the Euro-Arab dialogue (April 19) is a point which perhaps deserves to be made explicit. It is that other people accept Europe as an entity much more readily than do the Europeans themselves.

It may take international "cultural cooperation" to remind us of it, but European culture is our element and the United Kingdom can no more quit Europe than a fish can leave water. Sadly, being our element, it is often invisible to us.

Yours sincerely,  
BARNEY TRENCH,  
83 rue Marie-Thérèse,  
1040-Brussels,  
Belgium.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE April 29: Princess Alexandra today visited West Sussex to open the new Control Room at Fire Brigade Headquarters, Chichester and the Mothers' Unit of Concern for Life at St. Richard's District General Hospital.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Copping and Miss D. Saunders The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. J. Copping, of Clayton, Bradford, and Diane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. M. Saunders, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

The Prince of Wales, Liverman, will attend a dinner of the Fishmongers' Company at Fishmongers' Hall on May 11. The Prince of Wales will attend the launching of the Conservation and Development Programme for the United Kingdom at Logia Hall, London University on June 8.

Major M. H. M. C. Perrett and Miss R. L. Hazledine The engagement is announced between Michael Perrett, 17th/21st Lancers, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. T. Perrett, of Peacock, Logwood, West Sussex, and Rosemary, daughter of Mrs. Marion Hazledine and the late Lieutenant Colonel Rudolf Hazledine, OBE, of Beaulieu-on-Sea, Sussex.

Arthur Burrell Christianity in public life

"The corridors of parliaments and international conferences, often seem like spiritual deserts." So write Charles Piguet and Michel Sentes, co-authors of a recently published book, The World at the Turning. One is a Swiss Protestant and the other a French Catholic. Their aim is to provide evidence "that the world always alters for the better when individuals change for the better", to quote Cardinal Koening in his foreword.

included the commission of many crimes. Gibbon stated that "he seated Christianity on the throne of the Roman world". He has certainly left a legacy, which has lingered for centuries, of people becoming church members by virtue of their citizenship rather than their personal beliefs. For that reason it is not surprising that many have held that his official recognition of the church had a spiritually debilitating effect. They maintain that in the place of the eternal Rock of Ages on which Christ founded his church, Constantine substituted social cement.

OBITUARY LORD REDMAYNE Role in choosing successor to Macmillan

The Rt Hon Lord Redmayne, PC, DSO, who as Mr Martin Redmayne was the Conservative Government's Chief Whip in the House of Commons from 1959 to 1964, and who sat in the Commons for the Rushcliffe division of Nottinghamshire from 1950 to 1966, died on April 28 at the age of 72. Redmayne did not achieve high political office, and did not rank among the greatest of Chief Whips. But he played an important part in the crisis in the Conservative Party over the designation of a successor to Mr Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister in 1963. He had the responsibility of sounding out opinion in the party before the designation of a successor to Mr Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister in 1963. He had the responsibility of sounding out opinion in the party before the designation of a successor to Mr Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister in 1963.

Reception

British Philippine Society The British Philippine Society held its general meeting at the Philippine Embassy yesterday. The Philippine Ambassador, President of the society, and Mr R. Garton, chairman, were hosts at a reception held afterwards.

Dinners

Festning Railway Company Mr John Routly, chairman, gave a dinner last night at Bwlch y Fedwen, Penmorfa, near Llanfair, Gwynedd, on the eve of the opening by him of the new Blaenau Ffestiniog Station. The guests were: Sir William George, Chairman of Gwynedd County Council; Mr Alan Pease, Vice-Chairman; Mr R. J. G. Gwynne, Secretary; Mr P. R. W. Wainwright, Mr A. G. Gwynne, Mr P. R. Wainwright and Mr A. G. Gwynne.

Old Rydalian Club

The Chester dinner of the Old Rydalian Club was held at the Rydalian Club, Chester, last night. Mr P. R. W. Rigg, president, was in the chair and other speakers were Mr H. G. Searle, Mr J. R. Willis and Mr P. Watkinson, Headmaster of Rydal School.

Himalayan Club

The annual reunion dinner of the Himalayan Club was held at the Principal Club last night. The principal guests were Lieutenant Colonel Henry Day and Professor Noel Odell. Mr Robert Pettigrew presided.

Scriveners' Company

A dinner for the livery of the Scriveners' Company was held in the Masters' Hall yesterday. The Master, Mr John F. Phillips, presided, assisted by the Upper Warden, Mr R. A. D. Urquhart, and the Lower Warden, Mr C. J. Mallin. The Lord Mayor locum tenens, Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, who was accompanied by the Sheriffs, and

Marriage

Mr S. T. A. Dodd-Noble and Miss C. A. Botting The marriage took place at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, yesterday of Mr Tom Dodd-Noble, son of Mr Adrian Dodd-Noble and the late Lady Elizabeth Dodd-Noble, of Kenleyville, Allendale, Northumberland, and Miss Carolyn Botting, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ronald Botting, of Westworth, Surrey. The Rev. A. C. Courtauld officiated.

Service dinners

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards The annual regimental dinner of 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards took place at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night. Major-General D. H. G. Rice, Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

London and Kent Artillery

The London and Kent Artillery held a guest night at the Inns of Court Mess, Lincoln's Inn, yesterday. Colonel D. J. McLellan presided.

RAF Inverworth

A dinner was held in the Officers' Mess, RAF Inverworth, last night in honour of Air Marshal Sir Charles Ness, to mark his departure as Air Member for Personnel, Air Vice-Marshal B. Brownlow, Director General of Training (RAF), presided and Air Marshal Sir David Atkinson, Director General of RAF Medical Services, attended.

St Marylebone Parish Church

A special Choral Eucharist to commemorate the removal to Brookwood, Surrey of the mortal remains of those buried in the crypt (1817-1830) will be held at St Marylebone Parish Church on Monday, May 9, 1983, at 7 pm. The celebrant will be Bishop Morris Madocks and the preacher the Rev. Dr. Martin Ince. The Eucharist will include the dedication of the crypt as a Christian Healing Centre.

Judge retires

Judge Hughes retires today from the Circuit bench on the South-eastern Circuit.

Sale room

Record price for Studio vase

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A large stoneware vase, standing more than two feet high, and made around 1960 by Hans Coper secured the highest auction price on record for studio pottery at £10,450 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000) at Sotheby's yesterday.

Coper made few pieces as large as this, and the result is an object of striking sculptural quality. The sale demonstrated generally the Coper cult in healthy form, with new adherents joining the small but devoted band of his moneyed admirers. The more easily available smaller pots, around 10 inches high, were being sold by Coper himself for around £50 to £70 10 years ago.

There was a Lucie Rie porcelain bowl of the 1970s with a broad flared foot incised with bands of cross-hatching at £2,200 (estimate £800 to £1,200). There are often difficulties with the Bernard Leach pots but yesterday they went well. A stoneware "pilgrim" dish glazed in cinnamon against a deep blue-green and dating from the 1960s made £1,430 (estimate £800 to £1,000).

The market in very modern pottery is a new one and supported by a limited number of collectors, which can lead to sticky periods. Yesterday, however, was a good day all round with several new collectors joining the band, some

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Birthdays

TODAY: Professor G. E. Ayler, 57; Mr Dickie Davies, 50; Lord Diamond, 76; Dame Isabel Graham Bryce, 81; Mr W. R. Henry, 68; Lord McIntosh of Haringey, 50; Mr L. Paul, 78; Lord Pearl, 69; Lord St. Briden, 67; Sir Frank Turnbull, 78; Mr Peter Willis, 70. TOMORROW: Earl Bathurst, 56; Mr Frederick C. Braby, 86; Mr Steve Caughen, 23; General Mark Clark, 87; Mr Ian Curteis, 48; Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, 54; Major-General W. G. Fryer, 83; Lord Justice Gibson, 70; Mr Justice Goulding, 72; Lord Hamilton of Dalzell, 72; Miss Donna Harley, 28; Miss Joanna Lumley, 37; Mr Julian Mitchell, 48; Dame Felicity Penke, 70; Sir Lindsay Ring, 69; Air Commodore P. J. Sanders, 72; Miss Una Stubbs, 46; Mr Justice Taylor, 53; Miss Wendy Toye, 66; Rear-Admiral Sir John Woodward, 51.

Today's Professor

Professor G. E. Ayler, 57; Mr Dickie Davies, 50; Lord Diamond, 76; Dame Isabel Graham Bryce, 81; Mr W. R. Henry, 68; Lord McIntosh of Haringey, 50; Mr L. Paul, 78; Lord Pearl, 69; Lord St. Briden, 67; Sir Frank Turnbull, 78; Mr Peter Willis, 70.

TOMORROW

Earl Bathurst, 56; Mr Frederick C. Braby, 86; Mr Steve Caughen, 23; General Mark Clark, 87; Mr Ian Curteis, 48; Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, 54; Major-General W. G. Fryer, 83; Lord Justice Gibson, 70; Mr Justice Goulding, 72; Lord Hamilton of Dalzell, 72; Miss Donna Harley, 28; Miss Joanna Lumley, 37; Mr Julian Mitchell, 48; Dame Felicity Penke, 70; Sir Lindsay Ring, 69; Air Commodore P. J. Sanders, 72; Miss Una Stubbs, 46; Mr Justice Taylor, 53; Miss Wendy Toye, 66; Rear-Admiral Sir John Woodward, 51.



Mr Louis Jebb, great grandson of Hilaire Belloc, setting out from London yesterday to retrace part of Belloc's journey on which he based his book, The Path to Rome. Mr Jebb, who expects to arrive in the Italian capital at the end of June, is raising money for the modernization of the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth in St John's Wood, London. (Photograph: John Voos)

Farm research plea

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government should increase spending on agricultural research to help increase world food production, the Institution of Professional Civil Servants says. A report by the institution's agricultural research and development committee states that it is in Britain's interest to see the abolition of hunger and greater conservation of non-renewable resources. But that can be achieved only by an expansion of publicly funded research and development into agriculture, fisheries and food. The committee represents scientists and other professional workers in various public bodies, primarily the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and The Agricultural Research Council. The report contrasts the fact that, according to the United Nations, 800 million people are malnourished with the recent achievement in Britain of a new world record for winter wheat production of 15.6 tonnes a hectare. But it also observes that although Britain is a highly efficient agricultural producer, it is also a high consumer of non-renewable resources. The report calls for an end to cuts in research and advisory services, the development of national policies on nutrition and land use; more research into plant breeding, harvest programmes and pest resistance; reductions in the wasteful use of fertilizer, grain and fishmeal; a new international fishing authority to regulate catches; and a new aid programme for the Third World.

Services tomorrow: Fourth Sunday after Easter

ST PAUL'S, Westminster: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST MARYLEBONE, Church of St Marylebone: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST MARY'S, Church of St Mary: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST ANDREW'S, Church of St Andrew: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST JOHN'S, Church of St John: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST GEORGE'S, Church of St George: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST MICHAEL'S, Church of St Michael: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST MARTIN'S, Church of St Martin: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST PETER'S, Church of St Peter: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST JAMES'S, Church of St James: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST DAVID'S, Church of St David: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST GILES'S, Church of St Giles: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST EDWARD'S, Church of St Edward: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST AUGUSTINE'S, Church of St Augustine: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST LAWRENCE'S, Church of St Lawrence: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST NICHOLAS'S, Church of St Nicholas: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST VINCENT'S, Church of St Vincent: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Church of St John the Baptist: 10.30 AM, Holy Communion; 11.15 AM, Evensong; 7.30 PM, Holy Communion. 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THE ARTS

Radio An impressive Capital gain

Whatever Capital plans to do to retain its present London contract is unlikely to become clear much before the new eight-year period opens in October. The same goes for the hopeful bidder, Metropolitan.

Thus in the parts of it that interest me, I cannot help noticing that after a very patchy 1982, Capital Playhouse has come back strongly with a new production every month - even if, after one half of an encouraging start in January (Robin Shank's delightful *Not Today, Thank You* was the first part of a double bill), the actual content has been nothing to write home about.

Now comes Robin Blake's new weekly series of six dramatized features, *Tales of a City*. Certainly, if the first programme (*The Nun of Kilburn*, April 24) is any guide, no one could object if Capital wants to hold this enterprise up in front of its assessors as an example both of good intentions and good performance.

The format was a familiar one for radio: nephew (a monk-historian) visits his elderly aunt in Kilburn Priory where she has resided these last 40 years and she tells him the story of her life. However, all sorts of happy touches render this incomparably better than any outline might suggest. First, the period the old lady could remember had been a stormy one - it included the Peasants' Revolt - and she and her family had witnessed its consequences at first hand; next she was presented as a woman of considerable character who had taken the veil only because, after an apparently affluent father died in heavy debt, she had no alternative.

But she had never submitted to her condition, was regarded by her sisters-in-law as decidedly eccentric, this essential vitality and interest in the world infused her telling. It is always a test of this kind of programme whether it can make mention of the names of famous contemporaries without embarrassment and here a casual reference to Chaucer seemed the most natural thing imaginable.

Opera In the grip of Russian roulette

On top of this, the actual writing and studio direction of the material, both Blake's responsibility, were very good indeed. The script was confident and evidently well-researched, the dialogue was strong, not archaic but with a period touch, and while things moved with ease and speed from scene to scene, the acting sounded like real men and women.

To my ears, *The Nun of Kilburn* was the best dramatic production Capital Radio has ever put out and I have high hopes of *The Astrologer's Apprentice* tomorrow between 5 and 6 pm.

Would that there had been as keen a sense of place in *Lorca's The House of Bernarda Alba* (Radio 3, April 24; director, Michael Hefferman), but I think the play had suffered the fate of all but the most triumphant translations. Sue Bradbury's version had all the virtue of sounding like spoken English, while the awful stilted *Lorca* depicts of a newly widowed woman, who is determined to impose her will on the emotional ferment of her five disagreeable daughters is probably powerful enough to survive a transition into any language.

What did not survive was what I might call the living identity of the play, its existence in English ears as a drama in its own right. Here one followed it, but did not feel it. Maybe the direction did not always help: much depends on the contrast between the claustrophobic house and the insects, but ever-present pulsing heat and overness of the village outside.

Thus the rather mild and isolated scream of the girl about to be lynched for murdering her child seemed quite inadequate. So did the visiting itinerant seers, symbolic of so much sexual danger, the distant song that marked their progress through the village had all the menace of a well-intentioned male voice choir.

For a more solid sense of danger, tricked out with absurdity, let me refer you to *Coast to Coast* (Radio 4, Sundays) in which that persuasive broadcaster, Joseph Hope, tells of his attempt to reach the Zaire by way of the Congo River. The series of 10 talks has six to go; the first four were irresistible.

David Wade

Opera The Gambler Coliseum

The brakes are off, the clutch is out and the gears are racing wildly. Prokofiev finished his opera *The Gambler* just a month before the February Revolution of 1917, and in it produced a work as seething with improbabilities as Leninism, as tottering in imminent collapse as the Tsarist regime.

When Dostoevsky wrote his short novel in 1866 he could present gambles as an individual obsession, one whose force and dire consequences he well knew from his own experience. When Prokofiev adapted the book for the operatic stage half a century later, roulette had become the symbol of a collective intoxication that had arisen as well as politicians in its grip, above all in Russia.

This madness in *The Gambler* takes effect slowly and insistently, and it is one of the virtues of David Pountney's production for English National Opera that the characters behave naturally until forced by the music to do otherwise. One might imagine the piece with all the perversity of the German expressionist cinema, and though that might suit much of the music better than these stately casino scenes, it would miss the very Prokofiev-like twist of human beings stiffening into caricatures.

At first it seems we are in for a Classic Serial interpretation of the novel. But then at the end of the first act, Alexey's idiotic insult to a German baroness is hideously overplayed by the music and strikingly underlined by the production: I have never before heard anyone sing while performing cartwheels, though of course, Graham Clark's unembarrassed involvement in the central role goes beyond that. This is, indeed, an interpretation to set beside his other recent gambler, Tchekov's *Herrmann*. He uses his razor sharp lyric tenor to bring out Alexey's amused irony as



Graham Clark, wide-eyed and gambling

effectively as his wild-eyed craziness at the roulette table, and it is right that he should touch softness only when, with fluting inward-head voice, he loses himself in manic fantasy.

The development in Alexey from ironist to madman is facilitated by music which is so often at once satirically sharp-edged and utterly bizarre: the least pleasure of the evening is that of hearing an unfamiliar and wholly remarkable score leap out of the pit under the excited but also purposeful direction of the young Romanian conductor, Christian Badea. He reveals a work that becomes as kaleidoscopic and bizarre as *The Love of Three Oranges*, while retaining the grounding in reality that makes it a much more unsettling opera.

John Tomlinson as the General, a much more relaxed, accepting gambler than Alexey at the tables of fate, also takes full advantage of the move from realism into absurdity. His aplenty and dimness seem first

the usual attributes of the stage officer, but in his big scene of breakdown in the third act they blossom exotically into the tics of a cartoon figure.

None of the female roles offers quite the same opportunities. Sally Burgess makes Pauline, Alexey's beloved, enigmatic and hysterical all through, with a tendency to flare that is apt. Jean Rigby's demi-monde dame Blanche gains power from being the one character to keep control as the opera begins to break up around her. Ann Howard produces a nice portrait of grandamma in her irresistibly naughty nineties.

After a *War and Peace* successfully revived at this house and an *Oranges and Lemons* suggesting Prokofiev may be the next twentieth century operatic rediscovery after Janacek. Now we need a *Flaming Angel*.

Paul Griffiths

Television Marrying across the divide

The File on Jill Hatch (BBC 2) began last night as if it were a documentary, with a policeman reporting on "political agitation among the ethnic minorities"; but when the scene changes to Bristol in the mid-1940s, we discover how that "agitation" can spring from the lives of two or three individuals. A young Englishwoman, Sheila Bennett, has fallen in love with Carl Hatch, a black GI. His white colleagues in the army do not care for the match, and refer to him as a "coon" or "nigger"; his black friends are suspicious of the relationship also. When people are afraid, they often affect distaste.

Although Sheila is warned by her father of the dangers involved - there were many American states with laws against miscegenation - she decides to marry Carl and sail to an unknown but, for her, still exotic future in the United States. "I've never been anywhere," she says. *The File on Jill Hatch* has, you might say, everything: a straightforward

and sometimes brutal account of racial prejudice, as well as a nostalgic evocation of British life in the 1940s (coca tins and old comics), a combination of *Roots* and *Boots*.

This is in fact an American-British co-production, with equal contributions from both sides. Fortunately, the joins do not show and the drama avoids that mid-Atlantic compromise which is as bland as as tasteless as aeroplane food. It is directed and played with a realism which is sturdy enough to support what is in some respects a simplistic story - although no doubt only a simplified version of what was, for some couples, the actual truth.

In tonight's and tomorrow's episodes, we shall see what happens to the mixed legacy of the Hatches' marriage, when their child grows up first in America and then in England. I suspect we shall be watching an honest and well-considered account of our recent history.

Peter Ackroyd

WEEKEND CHOICE

"Considering how disenchanted he is with the whole acting business and if it is true, as he insists it is, that he has lost the energy and freshness he had when he went into films 20 years ago, it is little less than miraculous that, in his movies, Gene Hackman continues to give a passable imitation of a power station working at and even beyond, full capacity. There is a remarkable illustration of this in the clips from his latest film *Eureka*, which interlard the snippets of interview in *The South Bank Show* (tomorrow, ITV, 10.30pm). It may well be true, as Mr Hackman says it is, that he has excoriated from himself the need to be a performer, but there are qualities in his acting (remember his bulldozing New York cop in *The French Connection*, and his guill-ridden son in *I Never Sang For My Father*) which explained only in terms of obsessive dedication to one's art. Like Brando, the nearest thing to an idol, Mr Hackman adopts the "internalizing" approach to acting. Unlike Brando (certainly the later Brando), he can also "externa-

lize" without making us compile mental lists of the tricks he is getting up to.

Other television highlights: BBC2's eight-part salute to Brahms (a "life" tonight, at 8.20, and four Israeli hands at the piano keyboard tomorrow night at 7.15); the Embassy snooker semi-finals (today, BBC1 and BBC2) and the start of *The Firm* (tomorrow, at regular intervals); and Chaplin's uncharacteristic *A Woman of Paris* (tomorrow, Channel 4, 2.30).

Radio highlights: Barbara Leigh Hunt's solo performance as the pathetically reactionary wife scolding the scarcely-cold corpse of her liberal husband in Mick Caistor's translation of Nigel Delives' novel *Five Hours with Mario* (tomorrow, Radio 3, 7.45pm); and Byng at Large (tonight, Radio 3, 8.25); the first of Jeremy Irons's two *Diaris*, an account of the 1789 rural wanderings of the Hon John Byng, through whose misanthropic clouds the sun rarely breaks.

Peter Davalle

Theatre A reach-me-down attitude

is a painfully conventional roaring-bo performance in a leather suit, with a little wit and much coarseness, but certainly no second thoughts until it is too late to make sense of the interpretation. Even in her opening scene, tormenting her hated pretty sister at a rope's end, behind the shrewishness, her fire as tight as a mark.

along with it as a joke and the rest is plain sailing. The idea of Petruccio as humane humorist has been tried, but it does not fit here. The production just uses a bit of it to plaster the cracks between the initial brute and the sensitive lover at the end. With Jonathan Pryce's performance fresh in the memory, I wonder they dared. But the reach-me-down attitude is typical, with its stupendous and wasteful apparatus of funny costumes (Bob Crowley's elegance as a designer never deserts him, even when clothing a grotesquely overplayed Trupio in a gold suit and orange frilly blouse), bands wandering on and off, dango voices, anything-to-raise laughs

(which they do) behind which shallowness can take cover. Several jokes are Bogdanov bangovers, like Lucentio and Trupio getting caught with their pants down when exchanging costumes (can we have done with that one, finally?). Newcomers include the pool downstage into which Petruccio and Katherine sling each other after quite a nicely played scene. A director who sticks a swimming pool in the plank floor of an Elizabethan chamber must be desperate indeed. And Christmas carols, following whichever critic has said this was a winter comedy, alternate with summer hot enough for sunbathing.

Anthony Masters

Queen's Bench Division

GLC wrong to usurp coroner's discretion

Regina v Inner North London Coroner, Ex parte Chambers; Regina v Inner North London Coroner, Ex parte Greater London Council and Another. Before Mr Justice Woolf.

[Judgment delivered April 29] Section 78 (3) of the London Government Act 1963 provided that the Greater London Council (GLC) might provide and maintain proper accommodation for the holding of inquests, was not intended to give the GLC power to interfere in a coroner's discretion under section 3 of the Coroners Act 1887 to specify the venue for an inquest.

Accordingly, while the GLC could provide or cease to provide accommodation for a particular inquest, it was an abuse of its power to use the section to override a coroner as to the appropriate venue for the holding of an inquest.

Mr Justice Woolf so held in the Queen's Bench Division, granting an application for judicial review by Dr Douglas Robert Chambers, Mr Majesty's Coroner for Inner North London against the GLC's attempt to compel him to hold an inquest upon the death of a young woman, Rosech at Hackney Town Hall rather than at St Pancras Coroner's Court.

His Lordship dismissed cross applications by the GLC and the London Borough of Hackney. Mr Raymond Kidwell, QC and Mr Robert Webb for the coroner; Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Philip Sapsford for the GLC and Hackney London Borough Council; Miss Anita Wexler for the parents of the deceased; Mr R. R. Narayan and Mr Edmund Coffey for the Hackney Black People's Association; Mr John Marriage, QC and Mr David Stokes for the Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF, delivering a reserved judgment, said that on January 12, 1983 at Stoke Newington Police Station, Colin Rosech died of shotgun wounds. The police alleged that he shot himself in the mouth.

On January 13, the coroner for the area decided to hold an inquest, which opened on January 18 for identification of the body and the making of a burial order. The inquest was due to be resumed at St Pancras Coroner's Court on April 18.

Magistrates' Court being made available for the holding of the inquest. On April 15, the GLC wrote to the coroner informing him that a decision had been taken by the chairman of the GLC Legal and General Committee to provide for the GLC's functions under section 78(3) of the London Government Act 1963 the committee determined that St Pancras Coroner's Court was not appropriate for the holding of the inquest and that accommodation at Hackney Town Hall would be proper; and that the accommodation provided for the inquest under section 78(3) should be the council chamber or the assembly hall of the town hall and not St Pancras Coroner's Court. The coroner was asked to specify the place for the holding of the inquest before the committee on April 19.

The coroner sat on April 18 and adjourned having heard an application for judicial review supported by the Hackney London Borough Council that the inquest should continue at the town hall. In addition, the coroner heard a submission by the Hackney Black People's Association that they should be treated as an interested party at the inquest and allowed legal representation. He had previously indicated that he intended to call 22 members of the press had been approved, and that about 18 seats were to be saved for the family. Only a few additional seats would be available and therefore be able to attend.

His Lordship would have been happier if more members of the public were able to attend but, even on the lower estimate of the number of seats available, the inquest would be conducted in public. The requirement to sit in public did not mean that everyone who wanted should be able to attend.

The coroner was entitled to come to the decision which he did and that decision was not unreasonable. The problems which could occur when large numbers of the public attended an inquest at which feelings ran high had been recently demonstrated and it was proper for the coroner not to want to run the risk of the situation which existed at the inquest. *Regina v South London Coroner, Ex parte Thompson* (The Times, July 9, 1982).

Given the choice which faced the coroner, his Lordship would have chosen the coroner's court. On the second issue, section 78(3) of the London Government Act 1963 provided that the GLC "may provide and maintain proper accommodation for the holding of inquests". It was of no significance whether the GLC was under a duty or merely had a discretion.

A coroner held a judicial office of great antiquity and it was inconceivable that in a London Government Act it was proposed to give the GLC by a provision that gave power to interfere with the proper exercise of a coroner's discretion. Accordingly, the GLC was not entitled to require the coroner to conduct the inquest at Hackney Town Hall. The question remained whether the GLC properly exercised its function under section 78(3) in

authorizing by the Attorney General. The power of the High Court on the authority of the Attorney General was set out in section 6 of the Coroners Act 1887 in sufficiently wide terms to enable his Lordship to give full consideration to the first issue.

Where there was to be an inquest, section 3 of the Coroners Act 1887 required the coroner to issue his warrant for summoning the jury "to appear before him at a specified time and place". The only requirement of the Coroners Rules 1953 was that the inquest should be held in public.

Therefore, putting aside the GLC's action under section 78(3) of the London Government Act 1963, it was entirely within the discretion of the coroner to fix the particular place for the holding of the inquest, provided that the place selected was within his jurisdiction.

That discretion had to be exercised judicially bearing in mind that the inquest was to be held in public and the purpose of the inquest, as made clear by rules 26 and 27 of the Coroners Rules 1953. Estimates varied so to the number of people who could be accommodated at St Pancras Coroner's Court between 50 and 60 excluding the coroner, his officers and legal representatives. The coroner indicated that 22 members of the press had been approved, and that about 18 seats were to be saved for the family. Only a few additional seats would be available and therefore be able to attend.

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Law Report April 30 1983

Ban on trafficking in 'Holly Hobbie'

In re American Greetings Corporation's Application. Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the High Court, and Justice Dillon and Sir Denis Buckley. [Judgment delivered April 28]

Trafficking, for the purposes of the Trade Marks Act 1938, meant disposing of a mark, or the reputation in the name, as of itself a marketable commodity, in circumstances where there was no trade connection between the proprietor of the mark and the goods or business in relation to which the mark was to be used.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the American Greetings Corporation against a decision of Mr Justice Woolf, in circumstances where there was no trade connection between the proprietor of the mark and the goods or business in relation to which the mark was to be used.

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themselves manufactured or had manufactured for them. It was not in dispute that the appellants were entitled to be registered as the proprietors of the mark "Holly Hobbie" in respect of those goods, but the 12 applications with which the appeal was concerned were not in respect of such goods.

The activity known as character merchandising had for many years been common in America and known, if less common, in this country.

A person who had a popular fictional character to exploit, for instance, a fictional character from a film or television series or book or drawing, did so by granting licences to use the character, its name, and other trade dress, usually on a royalty basis, to licensees who wished to promote their own goods by using the fictional character in association with those goods.

The appellants were approached by manufacturers in the fashion trade who wanted to use "Holly Hobbie" on their products, and so the appellants entered on the activity of character merchandising.

They had been so successful at it that, on their own promotional literature, their licensees now produced over 400 products, from T-shirts and lamps to towels and cards, biscuits and other foods.

The appellants desired to have the protection of trade mark registration of the name "Holly Hobbie", as a name only without the drawings, in respect of the various classes of goods which the appellants' licensees wanted to produce.

The sense of that from the appellants' point of view was obvious; there was no copyright in the mere name of a fictional character and there were decisions, at any rate at first instance, to the effect that the inventor of a fictional character could not bring a passing off action against a person who chose to use the name of that character to promote his business in some field of commercial activity in which the inventor of the character

had never engaged. It was said that there had to be a common field of activity to support a passing off action.

That was the background to the 12 applications which came before the Assistant Registrar and the question for the court was whether what the appellants wanted was permissible under trade mark law. The Assistant Registrar and the judge held that it was not.

Each of the 12 applications was supported by a registered user agreement with the relevant licensee and by an application for the registration of the licensee as a registered user. It was common ground, and here was the nub of the case, that if the registered user agreements fell foul of section 28, and in particular subsection (6), and could not be accepted by the Registrar, the rejection of the applications for registration of the mark "Holly Hobbie" had to follow.

The registered user agreements were in substantially common form. Each was a contract on relatively short notice and each contained, in form at least, comprehensive provisions for the exercise by the appellants of quality control over the goods of the licensee marketed under the mark "Holly Hobbie".

In particular, the licensee undertook to use the mark only so long as the goods were of high quality and to conform with standards, specifications and instructions submitted or approved by the appellants; the appellants reserved the right to inspect the goods on which the trade mark was to be used and the methods of manufacturing such goods, and the appellants had the right to approve all packaging and advertising of such goods and the licensee undertook to amend any packaging or advertisements which were not approved.

Court of Appeal

Judge warns reporters who abuse drafts

Attorney General v Able and Others. Where copies of a judge's draft were made and reported to reporters it would tend to facilitate the judgment.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division on April 29, said that a complaint had been made to Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, that a reporter who had been supplied with a copy of his Lordship's judgment on April 28, *The Times* (April 29) caused a report of the case to be given to the BBC before delivery of the judgment had been completed with the consequence that what purported to be his Lordship's conclusion was relayed on Ceefax

before the judgment was concluded. His Lordship was not concerned with whether the allegation was true but he wished to say, with the authority of the Lord Chief Justice, that if a judge, to assist a law reporter or other reporter, made copies of his judgment available, it was clearly wrong that any part of it should be reported until after the judge completed giving judgment.

Over recent years a more relaxed practice had developed with regard to making copies available to reporters, but clearly, if that assistance was abused as alleged in the present case, that practice would not be able to continue and courts would have to adopt a much more restricted attitude.

Solicitors Le Brassens & Bury; Mr R. A. Lambson; Mr J. H. Bryson; Mr B. Birnberg & Co.; Maxwell & Goldman; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

Section 28(6) showed that trafficking in a trade mark was still a sin and the registration of a user agreement was prohibited if it would tend to facilitate trafficking. Trafficking in that sense meant, in Lord Lane's words in *Bowden Wire Ltd v Bowden Brake Co Ltd* (1914) 31 RPC 383, 392, disposing of the mark or the reputation in the name, as of itself a marketable commodity.

3 Before 1938, that was shown if the mark was disposed of, or if a licensee was granted, independently of the goodwill of the relevant business of the registered proprietor.

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RECENT ISSUES table with columns for company name, price, and change.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

MEDIUMS table with columns for company name, price, and change.

LONGS table with columns for company name, price, and change.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for country, price, and change.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for authority name, price, and change.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for bank name, price, and change.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for company name, price, and change.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES table with columns for company name, price, and change.

The sweet smell of success is turning a little sour for Mr Arthur Hill and the rest of his colleagues at Bellair Cosmetics...

Wasson is owned by two Turkish businessmen, Mr Mehmet Tecimer and Mr Halcin Ackay and Mr Hill's own private company Fenton Hill has agreed to sell them its 76 per cent controlling interest...

Yesterday, the board of Bellair announced its concern at the sharp rise in the share price, which they say is unjustified...

Doubt on Bellair's success

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, April 25. Dealings end, May 6. Contango Day, May 8. Settlement Day, May 15.

Sources close to Bellair say a meeting between the company and Wasson is expected in the near future. Last night, the shares closed at 195p, valuing Bellair at £5m, way above the 17p the shares were traded at earlier this year.

Shares of Halsey Hughes, the central heating and plumbing group, put up a steady performance yesterday, closing unchanged at 575p, despite a large seller of 250,000 shares just below the market price.

The rest of the equity market spent a quiet session with investors unwinding positions ahead of the bank holiday weekend. The FT Index ended the day 1.5 lower at 6953.3.

Glits recovered early falls of up to 2 1/2 to close all square on the day as sterling rose 0.05 cents higher on the foreign exchange at \$1.5600. Only the index-linked stocks remained

dull with falls of 1/2p, reflecting yesterday's new issue £1,000m of index-linked convertible stock.

Among the insurance composites broker James Capel underlined its recent bearish stance on Commercial Union when it sold 5 million shares cum-dividend at 165p. The shares ended the day 2p lower at 156p.

Higher after 510p, after 520, amid reports that the fine art dealer, has requested its brokers to buy the shares in the market. The venture is thought to have met only minimal success.

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at 472p - a net fall on the day of 4p. Selective support benefited Glaxo 10p higher at 885p, but Hawer Siddeley lost 4p to 390p.

On the bid from Softbay Parke Bernat ended the day 5p higher at 510p, after 520, amid reports that the fine art dealer, has requested its brokers to buy the shares in the market.

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which has been vehemently criticised. Still reflecting the disappointing reception given to the launch of Telestar on Wall St this week, shares of Exco International, which owns 57 per cent of the share, lost another 25p at 633p.

The board of Percy Bilton says it strongly disputes many of the assertions put forward by Trust Securities in its bid document this week and again urge shareholders to reject the £10m bid. Shares of Percy Bilton ended the day 2p lower at 280p.

This week's newcomer, Octopus Publishing, recovered from its disappointing debut with the shares rallying 14p to 272p compared with a minimum tender price of 273p.

In breweries, Bass encountered profit taking after Thursday's strong run, closing 2p lower at 320p, while bid speculation added another 10p to Scottish & Newcastle at 90p before closing unchanged at 89p.

But Grand Metropolitan, the Watneys and Trumans brewery group, was a weak spot, losing 7p to 347p.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983. The World's Top Companies. The 1000 UK companies with an alphabetical list.

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PROPERTY table with columns for company name, price, and change.

Sterling: Spot and Forward table with columns for market rates.

Money Market Rates table with columns for clearing bank base rate.

Other Markets table with columns for Australia, Bahrain, Finland, Hong Kong, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates table with columns for Ireland, Netherlands, Belgium, West Germany, etc.

Euro-£ Deposits table with columns for 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months.

Gold table with columns for gold price, silver price, platinum price.

INSURANCE table with columns for Alex & Alex, British, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS table with columns for Alliance Inv, etc.

RUBBER table with columns for Birlow Hedges, etc.

TEA table with columns for Camellia Inv, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS table with columns for B&W, etc.

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2,3 Travel: Call of the wild in Alaska, and the Cyprus divide; Eating Out gastronomically

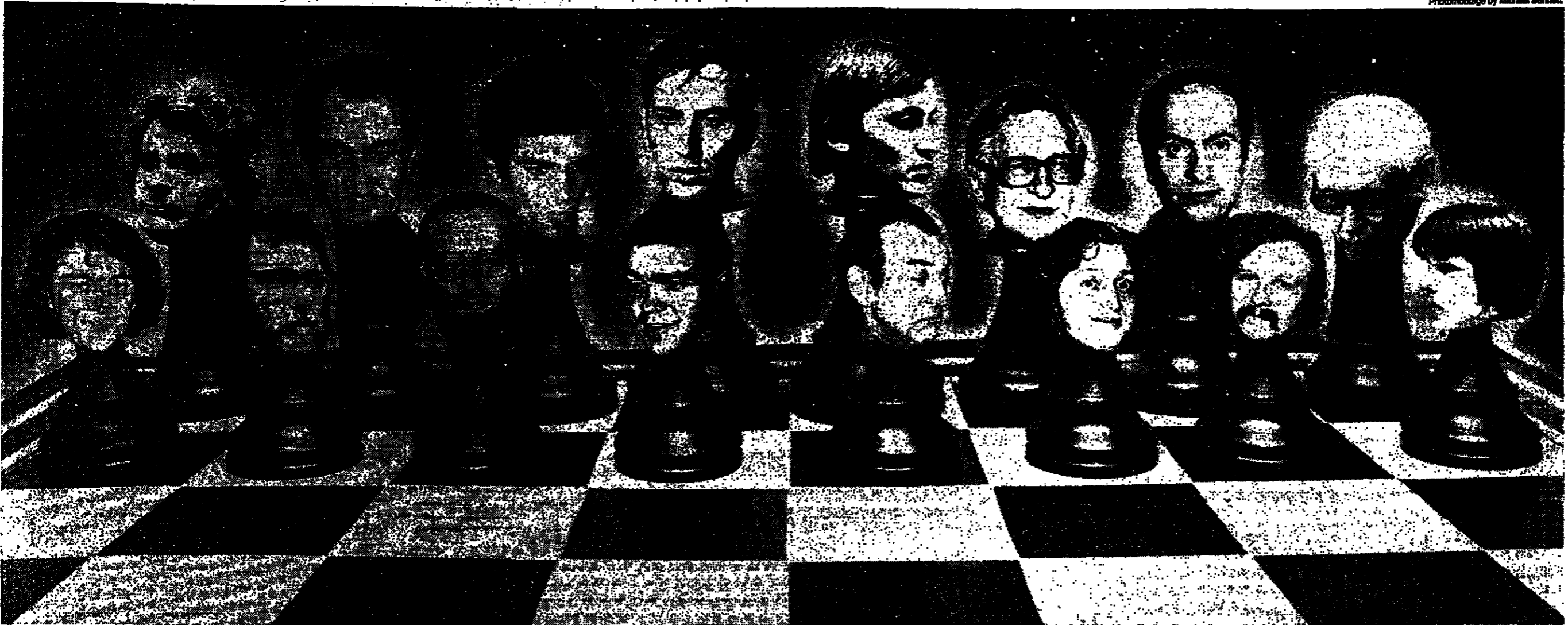
4 Values: How to find a suitable case for holiday treatment; Drink; In The Garden on planning ponds

# THE TIMES Saturday

5 Classical records of the month; Critics' choice of Theatres in London and out of town; and Galleries

7,8 Films; Music; Opera; Dance; Chess; Bridge; Family Life and the guide to The Week Ahead

30 APRIL-6 MAY 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS



### Tennis serves it up, snooker makes pots out of it and now the oldest strategic game of them all has formed its own Grand Prix.

#### Shirley Caftano reports on this and the battle for the world

## Masters of chess

Raymond Chandler described it as the greatest waste of human intelligence outside an advertising agency. Many of Britain's growing number of chess players would cheerfully endorse that assessment of their favourite pastime. For some, though, the growth of chess as a sport and the rewards brought by increased sponsorship can make it seem an attractive investment of mental energy. Of the three or four million in this country who enjoy an occasional game of chess, some 40,000 take it seriously enough to sacrifice frequent evenings to club and league matches. Ten thousand of these form the hard core of dedicated chess addicts who may be seen participating on the circuit of weekend

tournaments known as the Leigh Grand Prix. A single tournament chess game represents about four hours of intense concentration. In many respects the experience may be likened to that of sitting an examination of the same length. A weekend tournament usually comprises six such examinations crammed into less than 48 hours. A typical schedule begins with one game on the Friday evening, followed by three rounds on the Saturday in an orgy of almost continuous play lasting from breakfast time until midnight. Then up again on Sunday morning for another two bloody-eyed battles. There can hardly be a more exhausting way to spend a weekend, yet so popular are

such events that there are now more than 200 weekend tournaments each year at different locations throughout the country. The atmosphere is strained but friendly, despite the intense level of competition and often cramped playing conditions. Chessboards are lined up on trestle tables, under which contestants jostle for leg room. The only sounds are the ticking of chess clocks, reminding players that they have only a limited time in which to execute their moves, and the susurrations of shuffling chessmen as whispered analysis diagnoses the causes of defeat in already finished games. Occasionally the tension produces a harsher plea for silence from one whose game is still in progress.

The rigorous schedule is a test of stamina as well as chess skill and may explain why chess has become very much a young man's game. Anyone over the age of 30 is liable to be described as a veteran in the chess press. Beyond that, it is difficult to characterize the typical weekend chess warrior. They are predominantly middle-class, university educated and male. Although the growing popularity of chess seems to be quickly eroding the class and education barriers, the sexual stereotype is more firmly entrenched.

Nobody is quite sure why the best female chessplayers have never reached the standards of their male counterparts. Sociological, physiological and psychological explanations have all been advanced, but none less convincing than the Freudian theory: a player's strongest ally is his queen (mother-figure) which helps in his aim of slaying the enemy king (patricide); such an Oedipal urge is a male preserve; ergo, women can't play chess.

I don't believe it and neither do our top women players, who have recently taken the first step towards equality by showing an increasing tendency to reject participation in women-only events in favour of mixed competition. The old effeminate mantle of the British Ladies' Chess Association was thrown off last year with a change of name; the new "macho" image is represented by the British Women's Chess Association. Chessmen beware.

For the time being, however, the leading male players take home most of the cash prizes in weekend tournaments offered by local sponsors. First prize may be anything between £100 and £1,000, but the points scored in each event also count towards a player's total in the Leigh Grand Prix. At the end of each year, the best overall performance earns the title of Grand Prix Champion and a bonus of £2,000. More than half a million man-hours will have been expended in this quest for grand prix chess honours. The sponsors, Leigh Interests of Walsall, are a company which specializes in international waste disposal. Raymond Chandler would no doubt have considered that most appropriate.

For the majority of grand prix pretenders, the principal attractions of a tournament is simply the opportunity to spend a weekend thinking of nothing but chess. For some the prizes are more important, but the competition is hard. About 50 chessplayers in this country are trying to make a living out of the game, and the total amount of prize money on offer is no more than £60,000. Most will supplement their earnings by teaching or writing. Only the very best can command the "international" invitations and appearance fees which will provide a steady income from competitive play.

Chess champions, past, present and future: From left; John Nunn, Boris Spassky, Jonathan Speelman, Tigran Petrosian, Robert Häbner, Garry Kasparov, Zoltan Ribli, Bobby Fischer, Anatoly Karpor, Viktor Korchnoi, Vassily Smyslov, Jan Timman, Mikhail Tal, Tony Miles, Mikhail Botvinnich and Nigel Short

The long grind of weekend tournaments has become the apprenticeship which any young British player must serve before he enters the ranks of the internationals. Then he can dispense with the exhausting frivolity of three games a day. International competitions are never played at a rate less stately than a single game each day.

Anyone who has visited any sort of chess tournament and mixed with the players, would have few qualms about classifying chess as a sport. The game itself has strong artistic qualities, and the physical effort involved in lifting chess pieces is not very great, but its leading exponents predominantly display the competitive characteristics of sportsmen rather than the creativity of artists. The physical toll exacted by a hard chess game is easily underestimated and many are surprised to learn that the world's leading chessplayers train physically as well as mentally for important tournaments.

In this country, however, chess is still a recreation. When the British Chess Federation applied for government aid some years ago, their request was shunted between departments until finally awarded a grant by the Department of Education and Science under their provision for further education. A satisfactory result for the chessmen, but in their next round match, they had to concede defeat at the hands of the men from Customs &

Excise. After a long battle, it was finally ruled that chess tournaments could not qualify for the same VAT exemptions as other "real" sports.

Even if not truly a sport, chess can certainly claim to be one of the most international of all competitive activities. Until 1980, it was proudly maintained that chess was played in every country on earth. The Ayatollah Khomeini spoiled all that by banning it in Iran. He went further in his condemnation than Raymond Chandler by claiming that chess damages the

ability to remember and may even cause destruction of the brain. And what is more it causes people to think in a fractious and warlike manner. Some think that the Ayatollah's low opinion of chess may have stemmed from the knowledge that its very name was derived from the word "shah".

Outside Iran, international chess thrives as never before, all under the auspices of the world governing body for the game, the Fédération Internationale Des Echecs (FIDE). The FIDE computers hold records of all international events, which form the basis for calculation of an international rating list. Every six months a new list appears, giving a good indication of the relative strengths of all practising players. On the

basis of tournament results, titles of FIDE Master, International Master and Grandmaster are awarded to those who have fulfilled the necessary qualifying standards. The highest accolade is that of the Grandmaster title, of which there are about 175 currently active holders. More than 40 of that number are from the Soviet Union.

Ever since Stalin and his henchman Krylenko decreed an important role for chess in the development of the Soviet Union the game has enjoyed an unrivalled status in that country. Krylenko was Commissioner of Justice, but in his spare time moonlighted as general secretary of the Soviet Chess Federation. Stalin had him shot in 1938, but by then

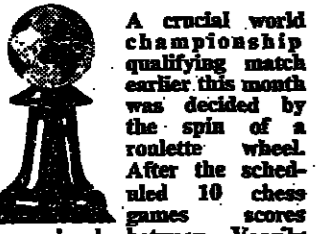
the seeds of Russian world chess domination had taken firm root.

The rest of the world has taken a long time to catch up, but the last decade has seen an unparalleled chess boom in the West. When Bobby Fischer defeated Boris Spassky for the world championship in Reykjavik in 1972, the unpredictable behaviour of the eccentric American brought chess into the headlines. Interest in the game increased dramatically, nowhere more so than in England, where chess club membership figures trebled immediately.

In pre-Fischer days this country had no Grandmasters and any thoughts of large-scale chess sponsorship were only a

continued on page four

### Wheel of fortune in the build-up to who will rule the world



A crucial world championship qualifying match earlier this month was decided by the spin of a roulette wheel. After the scheduled 10 chess games, scores were level between Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union and West Germany's Robert Häbner. The match went into four games of extra time, but still no result. With a suitable sense of the dramatic, the players and officials adjourned to the casino. Häbner's fortunes were staked on the black numbers, Smyslov's on red. The ball landed in the zero hole. They tried again. *Trois, impair, rouge.* And Häbner went out.

The result was a tribute to Smyslov's longevity as much as his luck. He had held the World Championship for a year a quarter of a century ago. Now 62, he is still a great player, but nobody really expects him to last the course without exhaustion taking its toll. His next opponent will be Zoltan Ribli, a Hungarian grandmaster 30 years his junior.

A match for the World Chess Championship is held every three years. That is the time taken to play the cumbersome series of eliminating contests designed to determine the man best qualified to challenge for the title. Every chess-playing nation is allowed at least one nominee in the early stages of the contest so, in theory at any rate, everyone has a chance to become world champion.

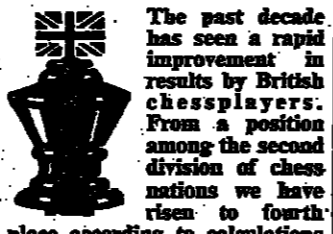
played among the last eight survivors until only one remains undefeated. He becomes the official challenger for the world championship. The champion himself remains dignified and aloof from this unseemly competition, saving himself for the glacial showdown with his challenger.

Even before the roulette wheel had reduced the number of candidates to four, many leading grandmasters had been eliminated from the current cycle. A trio of Soviet former world champions - Boris Spassky, Tigran Petrosian and Mikhail Tal - all fell at early fences, as did Jan Timman of the Netherlands, tipped by many as the only Westerner with a real chance to defeat Karpov.

Interest now centres on Garry Kasparov, the latest Soviet star. Although only 19 years old, Kasparov already has a string of impressive tournament victories to his name. His candidates semi-final match will be against Viktor Korchnoi, *déjà vu* of Soviet grandmasters, though at 52 a beast rather long in the tooth by chess-playing standards. Smyslov no doubt considers him still a spring chicken.

The winner of Korchnoi-Kasparov will be favourite to defeat Smyslov or Ribli and go through to meet Anatoly Karpov in 1984. If Kasparov overcomes the hurdles a thrilling contest is in prospect. Both he and the present champion were pupils of Mikhail Botvinnich, first Russian World Champion and patriarch of Soviet Chess. Their styles, however, are quite distinct. Karpov, supreme technician and master strategist, will face the tactical opportunism and volcanic brilliance of his young challenger.

### Britain squares up to fourth



The past decade has seen a rapid improvement in results by British chessplayers. From a position among the second best nations in the world, we have risen to fourth place according to calculations based on the latest world ranking list. Grandmasters Tony Miles, Jon Speelman and Dr John Nunn all feature in the world's top 30.

Tony Miles has been our most consistently successful player on the international circuit. Last year he spent enough time in England to win both the British Championship and the Leigh Grand Prix. Hopes for the future of British chess are encouraging, with a seemingly unending stream of prodigies emerging. Most attention has been given to the remarkable exploits of Nigel Short, now a veteran prodigy of 17. Perhaps Nigel's next result to date was his victory against Tony Miles in the final of the BBC2 *Master Game* series in 1981. The two Britons had vanquished six of the world's leading grandmasters to reach the final.

Since then, Nigel's results have been uneven, but he remains an outstanding prospect. His television chess success has encouraged hordes of children to take up the game, and the imaginative presentation of television chess has turned it into a spectator sport. New renamed *World Cup Chess*, the last series of BBC2 programmes attracted 1,000,000 regular viewers to this thinking man's *Pop Block*. But the children's series *Play Chess!* attracted more than 2,000,000 embryonic grandmasters.

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You'll also find a splendid selection of deckchairs, beach and picnic accessories, and glorious garden furniture, all at remarkably low prices. So call in at Habitat, and get set for summer!

Stores at Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Canterbury, Cardiff, Cheltenham, Coventry, Croydon, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Guildford, Hull, Ipswich, Kingston, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, London: Finchley Road, Hammersmith, King's Road, Tottenham Court Road, Manchester: John Dalton Street and Wythenshawe, Milton Keynes, Newcastle, Northampton, Nottingham, Peterborough, Plymouth, Romford, Sheffield, Southampton, Taplow, Wellingford, Watford, York.

Good design at good prices

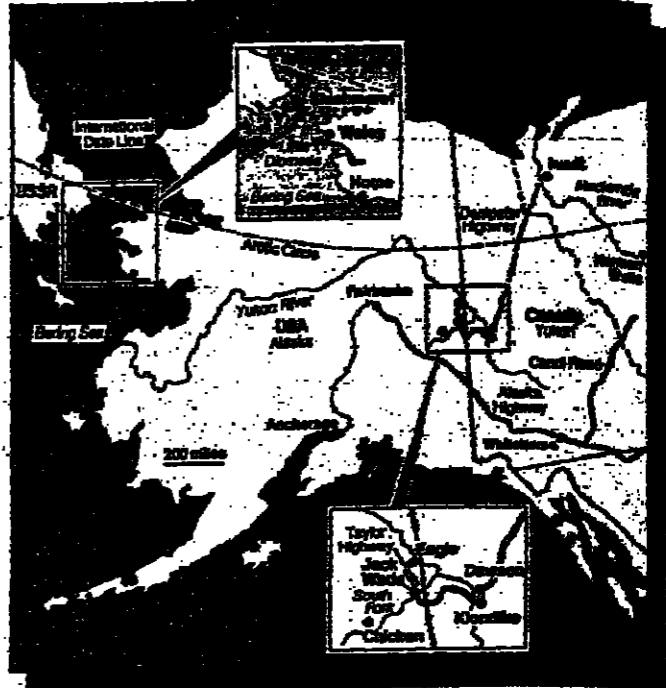




Desolate beauty: Snow-covered and rugged splendour of the towering Sargent Icefields, south-east of Anchorage

## Christopher Portway goes far north in the spirit of adventure

# Call of the wild on Alaska's ghostly highway



North America may not seem a likely source of the more exotic of homo sapiens but up in the far north of that continent they have a character all their own. What is more, so thin on the ground are they that their mere presence affords the treasure of companionship.

Canada's Yukon province is larger than Germany yet has a population about that of Bury St. Edmunds; its Northwest Territories are larger than Europe with a population no more than that of a largish English village, so you can see what I mean. The vast land mass of Alaska is home for less than 230,000, a fraction of the population of just one of the larger American cities.

It is this remoteness that draws me there again and again. In such territory the inherent goodness of our fellow men and women is an attribute born of compassion as well as survival. Here people can be enjoyed and, what is more, they can enjoy you.

I remember my first Alaskan trip. I had been led to believe that Anchorage was a city of wooden shacks but I found it was a plush metropolis of wide modern streets and it had a drug problem. But if the old frontier

is missing in Anchorage it is to be found in plenty a little further on.

Alaska throws up unique obstacles to mankind and he in turn invariably finds novel ways of surmounting them. Farmers and builders must compress their year's work into brief summers, provisions have to be shipped thousands of miles and all Alaskans live with the threat of earthquakes like the brutal one that struck on Good Friday 1964. They have to fly over roadless terrain, take to their boats despite bone-chilling water and exist in temperatures that we in Britain can hardly imagine. Above all Alaska is a land of challenge, holding beneath the surface of its permafrost and waters the vast wealth which first attracted the scruffy, hot-eyed miners in 1896.

Alaska's northernmost "city" is Nome on the west coast facing the Bering Sea, just below the Arctic Circle. Following the discovery of gold on the beaches in 1898, it boomed into a gold rush camp of tents and frame buildings. Once the community numbered 40,000. Today it is less than 4,000. The gold rush has passed and mining is on the decline but an aura of those

glamorous days still lingers on. Touting the ramshackle town is like sightseeing in a junkyard with the tottering houses surrounded by a collection of pipes, boilers, tin cans, old cars and discarded ice-boxes - all a treasure trove of vital spares. Telegraph poles and television aerials lean at drunken angles for nothing holds up for long on the shifting permafrost. Accommodation is scarce and expensive but these is dormitory space in a church hall for as much as you care to give or in the homes of Nome's good citizens who look upon a guest as a privilege.

Nome is the centre for visiting Arctic Alaska and it is the gritty little British Islander aircraft and pilots, some of Eskimo stock, of Munz Northern Airlines that provide the transportation since the few roads go nowhere. These "bush pilots" depart daily for the many tiny communities, winging their way with passengers and stores across the tundra and over the Bering Sea. Here is the perfect opportunity to see the Eskimos as they live from day to day, at home and at work. Visitors are warmly welcomed and can be put up at simple but cosy guesthouses.

The desolation is awe-inspiring. I flew beside my ever-smiling, ever-joking pilot to Little Diomed Island, just 22 miles from Siberia, where I could look into tomorrow across the International Date Line, to Shishmaref to watch women making the mukluks and parkas which are *de rigueur* wear in such climes, and to Wales, the westernmost point on the North American continent.

On another of my visits to the northern American wilderness I drove a small Japanese car the full length of the Alaska Highway; further in fact, since I started from Edmonton. My companion was a Dakotan buffalo farmer, a spirited youngster who had joined me from a village near Fargo. Two thousand miles of highway with, from kilometre 0 at Dawson Creek to kilometre 2446 at Fairbanks, long rough gravel sections interspersed with pot-holed paving in the vicinity of the few townships.

The Alaska Highway is no longer classed as a "wilderness road" but there are plenty that are. One is the Dempster Highway of 725 kilometres which meanders its empty way across the silent terrain from Yukon's Dawson to remote Inuvik in the Northwest Territories. En route there is only one filling station and the road surface is made of volcanic chips that will lacerate a tyre at speeds above 30 miles an hour.

The "Trail of '98" leads northeast and by driving the first portion of the Klondike Loop road, then continuing along the grandiosely named Taylor Highway, you will pass a resurrected gold rush camp with new blood coursing through veins that have been dead for decades. At the end of the road, no more than a stony track through endless pine forest, lies Eagle, another gold rush settlement on the banks of the Yukon River. Here again you can smell the lure of gold but around Jack Wade junction the roadside is littered with old dredgers and the bones of mining machinery. Among these relics of the past, shy of prying eyes - particularly those of the income-tax inspector - are the modest encampments of today's prospectors.

On the South Fork River, near the hamlet of Chicken, I came across Joe O'Bealie, who was big-hearted enough to welcome my company. I tried my hand at underwater prospecting with him and together we extracted large quantities of river bed from the cold waters but very little gold dust with it. In the evening, barricaded in his rough and ready home from the horde of vicious mosquitoes, Joe related horrific tales of his years of toil - not without reward - through winters of indescribable cold, cheating death as every ambitious emigrant from his refuge into the snow to obtain vital supplies from the Chicken general store.

Now it was mid-summer, the countryside was green under a brilliant sun and the village saloon awash with fellow prospectors putting down their evening grog as if it was the end of the world. Laughter and ribald comment rent the smoke-laden air and the local lawman writhed his gun in true cowboy fashion as he swallowed his fifth shot of rye.

The Alaska Highway, the White Pass and Yukon Railway and the Alaska Railroad are arteries of some fame but few of us have heard of the old Canal Road. Yet once, during the Second World War, it had aspirations to become a second Alaska Highway. It took two American army divisions and 36 million dollars to build. Snaking across the multiple barrier of the Mackenzie Mountains from Norman Wells on the great Mackenzie River deep in the Northwest Territories to Whitehorse, only the Yukon end is still in use as a "wilderness road". The remaining 230 miles has become a ghost highway, now designated a hiking trail, bearing along its route the mouldering relics of an army's passing. It traverses a landscape of astounding beauty and a terrible loneliness, of unbridged rivers, landslides, herds of inquisitive caribou and lone temperamental grizzlies.

Four of us, two Englishmen (one resident in Dawson), a Canadian trapper and a young German, trudged those evocative, heart-breaking miles, forging and rafting the fast-flowing, dangerous river, stumbling over endless scree. Carrying 70 pounds of rucksack, I would never have made it but for the help, encouragement and close companionship of my fellows. Yet this is the only method of seeing, feeling and appreciating the splendours of the north.

The top of the world and what incredible territory it is, the Arctic scenery is one of the unusing wonders of our earth. If it were possible to ride a trans-Arctic express in winter one would not think of this area in shades of blue but see it in hues of red, orange and milky pink. As for the wildlife, witness the overwhelming impact of thousands of snow geese sweeping across the horizon and you can truly appreciate the magnitude of God.



Consult: Munz Northern Airlines, PO Box 790, Nome, Alaska 99762, USA; White Pass & Yukon Railway, PO Box 2147, Seattle, WA 98111, USA; Canadian Government Offices in Toronto; Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1; United States Travel Service, 22 Sackville Street, London W1; Rainbow Adventure Tours (for Canal Road trekking) from Twickenham Travel Ltd, Hampton Road, Twickenham, Middlesex; Guide books: *Alaska* from Alaska Northwest Publishing Co, 130 Second Ave, S. Edmunds, WA 98820, USA; *Alaska Travel Guide* from 241 W. 1700 S., Salt Lake City, Utah, 84115, USA.



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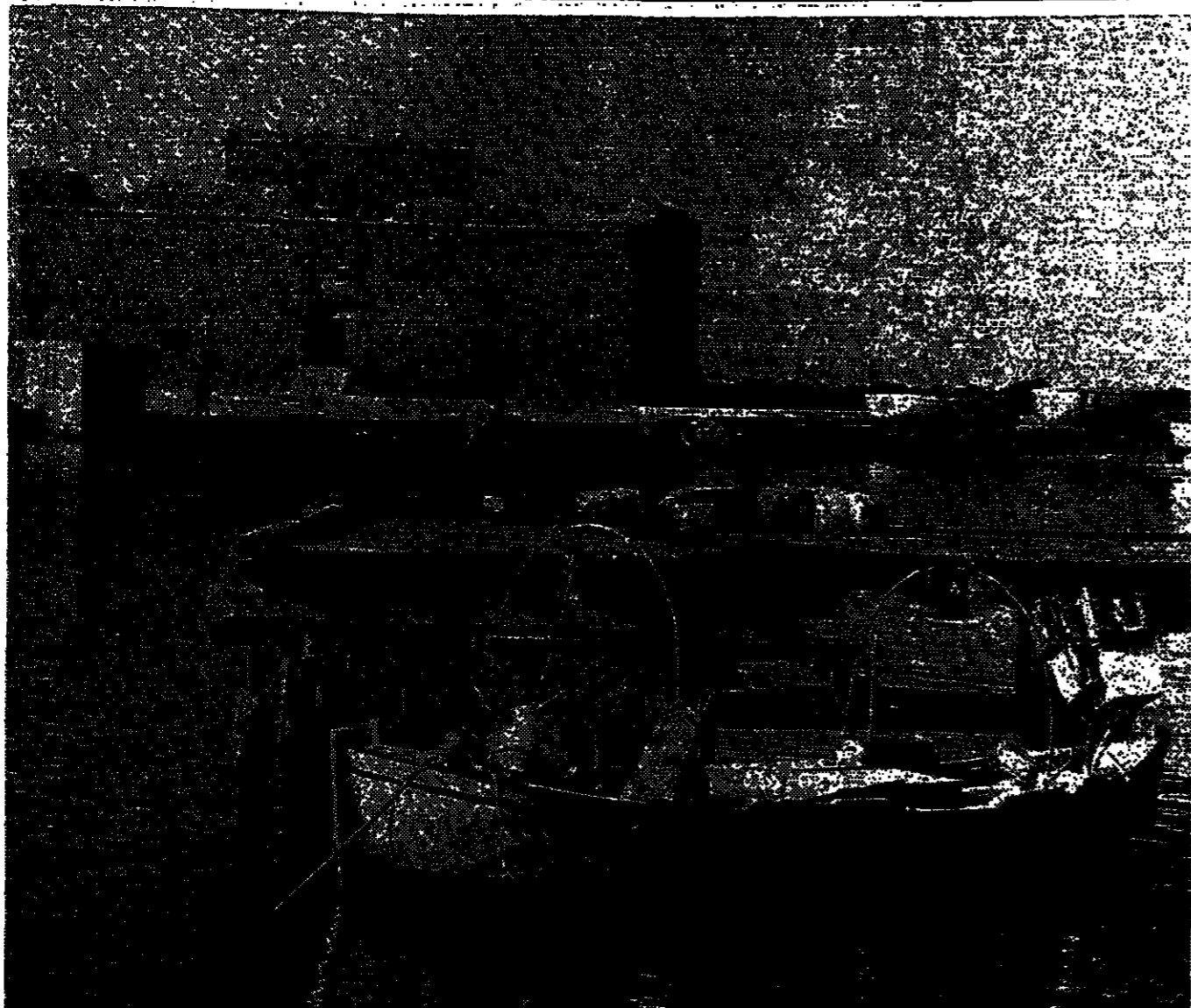
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TRAVEL/2

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole



Turkish delight: Old Turkish castle on the harbour at Paphos in the south of the island

Gin-clear sea unites the great divide

In Cyprus the words of the travel agent were proved to me: secure package tours to well-known resorts and luxury hotels are for the young he had said. Advertise holidays in unfamiliar places where the roads are rough and the hotels, built before air conditioning, serve jam in a pot rather than a packet, and the age of the clientele begins to rise.

Richard Dowden finds that Cyprus is able to span the age-gap

It is a shock to come across the frontier. The only crossing point is at the Ledra Palace Hotel in Nicosia. Since 1974 there has been no fighting but its doors and windows are sandbagged, its driveways blocked with barbed wire and its walls pocked with bullet holes. The experience of crossing the border is more frustrating than frightening. The Turks need three days' notice if you want to go further than Nicosia itself and do not allow in hired cars from the south. The Greeks also make you fill in forms and insist you are back by six in the evening.

But it is worth the effort. Many of the most spectacular sights and sites are in the north, and Kyrenia and Bellapais above it on the mountainside are astoundingly beautiful. Border police point you to taxis which charge about £10 for the half-day trips. In its Ottoman torpor the north lacks the commerce to build the blocks of hotels which spread out like wings from every seaside town in the south. They have few tourists in the north and make a great fuss of those they get. But if you plan to stay there just direct and visit the south next time.

Cyprus is cheap. Three of us paid £278 each for return flights, car hire and a villa for three weeks. We went with Sunvil Travel, Sunvil House, 7 and 8 Upper Square, Old Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 7BJ (088 4499). Good wine can be bought for 50p a bottle, and you can eat out well for less than £5. All the best Greek cooking comes from Cyprus. For general information on the southern part of the island only, contact the Cyprus Tourist Office, 213 Regent Street, London W1 (734 9822). For travel direct to the north, CTA Holidays, 28 Cocksfoot Street, London SW1Y 6BN (030 4851) offer flights and packages.

In early winter Cyprus has at least five hours of hot, sharp sunshine a day and it begins to get really hot again in April. The sea is gin clear and, in places, warm even in November when I was there. There are miles of beaches of the best quality for sandcastles and behind them the pineclad mountains. Few people speak no English and all of them like to live up to their reputation for unrivalled hospitality.

Many of the tourists I met were former British soldiers returning to happy memories and a genuinely warm welcome. Every Mediterranean power since the stone age has left its mark on Cyprus and it is littered with evocative ruins of cities, temples and shrines. Some are freshly excavated, others virtually untouched. At Kouklia, an ancient city abandoned in Roman times, you can climb through the tunnel dug by the Greek inhabitants in 498 BC to undermine the siege works of the Persian invaders.

At Paphos I went on a diving course with Cydive, a school run by an Englishman whose good sense about the need for safety was tempered with an appreciation that I was more interested in underwater diving than obtaining diving qualifications.

Although you will probably not escape a lecture or two from Greek Cypriots on the evils of the Turks, the barrier which cuts the island in two and the violence which imposed it are imperceptible.

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EATING OUT

Accolades as experts gather

The pursuit of excellence leads a party of culinary cognoscenti to deepest waters for a meal that marks a milestone in gastronomic history.

CHEZ NICO. 128 Goswellton Road, London, SW8 7SD (0800). Tues-Fri 12.30-2pm, Tues-Sat 7.30-10.45pm. The British Academy of Gastronomes took their first meal together recently. Founded at the instigation, and under the presidency, of Egon Ronay, the Academy's objective is to advance standards of food and beverages "at all levels of consumption". I am one of some 50 founder members - assorted food and wine connoisseurs, authors, journalists, businessmen, academics and others.

The form is that members of the Academy meet for lunch or dinner every four to six weeks at selected restaurants. The fare and wines are arranged by one member, and appraised, in the presence of the chef and staff, by another.

The first place to receive the lodes of a visit was Chez Nico, an ironic, though thoroughly appropriate, choice since Nico Ladenis is a man of determined and outspoken views who spends much of his time at daggers drawn with the restaurant editor.

The gastronomic host was Charles Forman, the European publisher of *Fortune* magazine, a man whose job involves him in an enviable amount of gastronomic summery. He chose Nico's, he said, because he had found it a useful and reliable place to come to. The menu was largely his choice. He had prevailed on Nico to reinstate a Sauternes *gêlée* with his duck liver parfait, which Nico had abandoned because customers invariably left it on the plate. We should not blame the customers, Forman suggested, because in most restaurants *gêlée* was not worth even trying. He had also suggested quails as the main course. Nico had preferred the first of the new season's lamb, served with two purées, of garlic and tomato with basil.



Wines had been chosen by Allan Hall. I noted that I was out of fashion (ahead? behind?) taking *frambiose* in the champagne. With the duck liver (time parli ordinary to one specially larded) and following *mousseline de sole* in a cream sauce textured and brightened with minuscule dice of vegetable we had a Trimbach Mispel 1971, Reserve Personelle, a rarity in Britain (and everywhere by now) but from the restaurant's list. With the youngest of lambs, we had the youngest of Bénédictines - a 1982 Bénédictine, Chateau Thivier, which also accompanied grilled goat cheese with a salad of *mâche* dressed in hazelnut oil.

A kirsch parfait with *coulis de framboises* brought us full circle to the mûscat flavour, an *can de vie de Frontignan*. The critical commentary was supplied by E. W. (Johnny) Apple, London bureau chief of the *New York Times*, and a collaborator on Egon Ronay's recent TWA guide to Europe's business city restaurants. We were not to be shy about applying cosmopolitan standards to British cooking, he told us, and marked Nico's meal at 16; out of 20 - good from a man who can rate a leading London hotel's breakfast at three out of 20 when feeling generous.

The duck liver parfait was perfect, but the *gêlée* underflavoured; ginger & sherry were suggested as additives. The *mousseline*, beautifully presented and finely flavoured, he found too similar in texture to what went before. The English lamb was the finest he had ever eaten, but the purées were really sauces, and perhaps there were too many flavours fighting on the plate.

Apple prefers cheese straight; I, who like salads composed around it, thought the *chèvre* too fresh and too superficially grilled for its role here. The parfait of kirsch, a dish Ronay particularly admires, had had its *coulis de framboises* reinstated after *coulis de cassis*, tried by the Academy organizers at a test meal, proved overpowering. The wines Apple thought particularly well chosen.

Nico, to the relief of those who know him by reputation only, took the criticisms in good part, and agreed with many of them. My own conviction was that the £31 I paid for the meal was money well spent.

Next we go to Inigo Jones, where the critic will be Sir John Plumb, Master of Christ's College, Cambridge. My ticket application is in. I find it fun eating with people who can score their food down to the decimal point.

Robin Young

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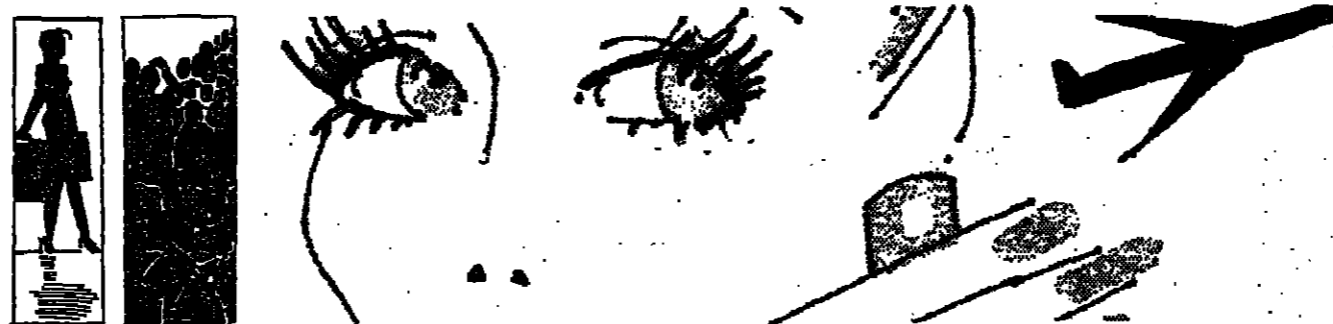
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Lindsey Bareham explores the world of luggage where fashion vies with function and distinction with durability

# A suitable case for making a quick getaway



Luggage is not an easy subject to enthuse about. Unfortunately, we all need it, although we probably use it only once or twice a year. It takes up a lot of storage space and ideally should be a once-in-a-lifetime investment. Investment is not an idle choice of word, for in any shop these days decent luggage is rarely below £50 apiece for man-made fabrics and nearly four times that for leather.

British Airways, the 1982 airline of the year, who handle tons of luggage every month do not favour particular types of luggage or back particular manufacturers. Their only advice to the wary traveller is to choose something strong, without sharp corners, flapping straps or protruding handles.

Although individual airlines have exclusive and total responsibility for your luggage once checked in, Heathrow operate the conveyor belts and carousels and they are far more specific in their luggage advice. They find it more convenient to handle two average size suitcases rather than an outside one and are not at all in favour of suitcases with protruding wheels which can get tangled up in their transportation system or rip or scratch other luggage.

John Hatt, a seasoned traveller and author of *The Tropical Traveller* (Pan, £2.25), points out that all suitcases are very similar and many identical, so to avoid walking off with someone else's luggage he advises personalising the case in as dramatic a way as possible.

The seemingly endless hanging round at the carousel has caused a boom in luggage that fits under the plane seat and meets the hand-luggage allowance of a 45 in total for

the three dimensions. At the moment hand luggage is rarely weighed but the limit is 5 kg. Soft nylon zippered straps and holdalls with hand and shoulder straps are widely available and ideal for stuffing under the seat. The de luxe models with external pockets are best of all and these cost around £10; cheaper versions should have their zips, seams and strength of handle checked.

**Traditionalists go soft**

The smartest range I have come across is sold at the colourful City Bag Store, a company which over the past four years has done a lot to promote informal luggage. Called Le Sportsac and made in the US, it comes in a variety of sizes, shapes and colours in a very durable parachute and nylon fabric. It is claimed to be rip-proof, has self-locking zips, is waterproof and machine washable and folds up easily into a sponge-bag size pouch. Most models have loads of extra external pockets and shoulder straps. They range from £12.50 to £49.50 and a good-sized bag, 21 in x 13 in x 10 in, costs £37; a wardrobe bag or suitcase is between £33.50 and £37 and a roomy back-pack, 12½ in x 15½ in x 5 in £23.50. Extremely good value is their Sunscape Voyager range made in rubberized cotton. There are four sizes ranging from £13.95 to £16.95; all are 26 in long, have various pockets and hold an enormous amount. The Sunscape, a nylon waterproof barrel-shaped bag, 20 in long, available in olive, gold, wine, navy and silver at £5.99 is the cheapest bag of its sort that I

found but has no shoulder strap.

Many traditional luggage manufacturers now make both soft and hard suitcases which meet the hand luggage dimensions and, depending on how long your trip is and how light you can travel, these bags are a perfect means to a speedy exit from the airport.

Karrimor, a Lancashire company, was started in the 1930s to make cycle bags and turned its hand to rucksacks for which it is now a market leader. It has now brought out a range of soft luggage in very hard-wearing, lightweight, non-scurf DuPont Cordura and their specially treated, easy-to-clean Silvguard. Called "adventure luggage" with the brand name Karatura, it is aimed particularly at people undertaking outdoor holidays or activities and comes in two-tone ice grey and pale blue with black trim and zips. All have a unique feature that enables the bag to be drawn in to fit the contents and can take a Karro, a series of zippered internal pockets for shoes, washing, and so on, that clip inside the bags. Their flight bag, the Kardiale, which fits under the seat and has a shoulder strap, costs £45.50; their large "designer" rucksack £93. A colour brochure shows the entire range and is available from Karrimor stockists, many luggage shops and in London at the YHA shop in Covent Garden. Their rucksacks come in all sizes, degrees of sophistication and colours. Rigid, or semi-rigid, with internal or external frames, they cost from £10 to £100.

Papworth Industries, founded in 1921, and now government sponsored, have an

excellent reputation for their leather luggage. They are hotly tipped to win a 1983 Design Council Award for the new Yuki range. Designed by haute couture designer Yuki, the range is tastefully plain and hand-made in fine quality very soft black or Sienna (bright) red leather, beautifully finished with silk or cotton linings. The 23 designs, which range from a purse to a large suitcase/suit carrier 22 in wide with loads of pockets and a shoulder strap, are designed never to leave their owner while travelling. Mind you at £238 for the latter I'm sure no one would want to part with it. Without the suit carrier, the same case costs £189 and both have two lock systems. A suitcase which takes two suits costs £158 and an overnight case £168.

Another British company, Mulberry, well known for its leather belts, bags and ready to wear has also diversified into luggage. This fashion-oriented company injects a bit of style into the world of luggage and its most popular lines (all of which fit under a plane seat) include a carpet bag 20 in x 15 in with a 5 in gusset, top zipper, two handles, and reinforced studded bottom in royal blue or cream canvas with natural leather trim which costs £36.50. The same bag in rubberized cotton in khaki or china blue costs £49.50. A optional shoulder strap £4.50. A mail order list is available on request.

Good old Woolies sell only British made suitcases and though their range is reduced this year their current promotional line is not to be beat anywhere. Made in strong vinyl in a choice of burgundy, tan or grey/blue, it is a soft zippered

case and comes in three sizes, 26 inches at £149.99, 28 in £159.99 and 30 in £169.99. It is available at this price in the 900 sq so Woodworth stores throughout May or as long as stocks last.

A pricier bargain from the British company Lester is only available for three days, June 28 to 30 inclusive, at the Lycium Ballroom, Cash and Carry Sale. It is a range of classic style simple hide cases all with a Gucci-type vertical green and white canvas webbing stripe. The bags are soft, lined, have a magazine pouch, lock and a secondary security flap with its own lock. They normally retail for more than £100 a piece but in the sale will sell at almost half price; 24 in x 18 in x 7 in, £50, 36 in x 24 in x 7 in, £55, and 48 in x 24 in x 7 in £59.

**Hard cases to crack**

Two of the most tasteful foreign fashion ranges can be seen at Finnigans in Knightsbridge and Wilmow, Cheshire. The Swiss Traveller company has a very smart range of bags made in strong pvc with a suede-look finish and leather-look trim and straps. Available in burgundy, black or navy the fabric has a beige "g" all over it, but this looks much nicer than it sounds and all bags are soft and fully co-ordinated down to handbags and holdalls. Suitcases from 25in to 29in cost £72 to £82; spacious carryall £46.50. Geolite is a range of very tasteful Danish luggage of exceptional value and comes in beige canvas with brown leather trim and wheels. Suitcases range from a 31 in case at £69 to 26 in at £55 but they also do a superb,

all roomy shopping bag with four wheels which fold up. It costs £34.75.

Despite specializing in traditional, preferably British, luggage like the entire soft, hard and new lightweight Kuller range, superb Tanner Krollle craftsman-made leather luggage (about £200), the lightweight very durable US Lark and exclusive lines, Mr Dumbobin who has managed Finnigans' Knightsbridge shop for 45 years feels the trend is towards soft luggage and positively glows over the Yuki range.

Hard cases are certainly the most secure in terms of locks but as James Cunningham the assistant luggage buyer at the large Selfridges luggage department points out, any luggage lock can be broken by a determined thief. John Ekin warns travellers against putting a name and address label on the suitcase. House burglaries committed while the residents are away on holiday have been traced back to baggage handlers.

Some say it is tempting fate to buy status luggage but if you must, Harrods have a very reasonable range with their distinctive "H" printed boldly on the outside. Made in nylon, all their luggage is soft, available in black, burgundy, or navy and ranges from £19 for a carryall to £59 for a 28 in case on wheels, with a shoulder strap. Harrods also keep the stylish Pierre Cardin range which is surprisingly reasonable. Available in burgundy or black, a 65cm case in vinyl with leather-look trim costs £96. The Burberry range starts at £32.50 for a carryall; zippered suitcase with straps £120 and flight bag with lots of pockets and shoulder strap £75. The ultimate in status luggage

### Information package

**Repair:** Most large luggage manufacturers will issue a minimum one-year guarantee with their products. For most people this will mean very little as the case is likely to be used only once or twice in one year. After a few questions after sales service but all major stores and luggage shops get their repairs done through A.T. Overalls, 288 High Street, London W3 (922 0177).

**Insurance:** Harrods' luggage department displays a large sign warning travellers to make damage claims immediately to whichever airline is responsible. Personal luggage insurance is a wise precaution. If it is not included in the holiday insurance, most insurance companies will issue a separate policy at around £8.50 which covers baggage and personal money plus compensation of around £75 if luggage is lost for more than 12 hours.

**Stockists:** City Bag Store, 3 South Molton Street, W1 (499 2549); 7 Kensington Shopping Arcade, Kensington High Street, London W8 (937 2009); 49 North End, Croydon, Surrey (881 9668) and 19-20 Royal Exchange, Market Street, Manchester (061 833 9049); Finnigans, 148 Kensington Street, London SW1 (245 8141) and Wilmow, Cheshire (0625 525381); Gucci (shop and mail order), 27 Old Bond Street, London W1 (829 2716) Harrods (four floors), Knightsbridge, London SW1 (730 1234); Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1 (285 5000); Lycium Ballroom, Wallington Street, off the Strand, London WC2 (1st-5th, 28, 29 and 30 June, Adm 40); at day licensed bar, snacks and DJ; Revelation, 170 Piccadilly, London W1 (493 4138); Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 (basement) (829 1234); YHA, 14 Southampton Street, London WC2 (838 8641)

Beryl Downing, Shopping Editor, is on holiday.

## Fiercely French Alsations

The pretty picture postcard scenery of Alsace is everyone's idea of a traditional wine region, with its charming medieval villages, complete with gabled houses, steeped churches and neat, tidy vineyards. Flowers are everywhere and every inch of this narrow ribbon of a wine region, tucked in between the Vosges mountains and the River Rhine in North-east France, exudes a contented, prosperous air.

But appearances can be deceptive and behind the Alsatian chocolate box exterior, lies a grim, war-torn history of nationalities from French to German to French and back again to German, before finally being declared French in 1918, created havoc with the Alsatian people who are at pains to point out that they are French even if their cobbled streets and medieval houses often seem more Germanic in style.

The fragrant, flowery and fruity wines of Alsace sadly seem little-known and are rather under-estimated in this country. Curious perhaps when you consider we drink a lot more white wine than red, and that the popular taste is for young, fruity wines. Still, the first sip of any Alsace wine does come as a surprise; for instead of being slightly sweet, as their bouquet implies, these wines on the palate are bone dry and fairly austere to boot. But this dry, clean-cut direct character means that Alsace wines are tailor-made for drinking with food, which is why most restaurant wine lists boast an Alsace section.

Apart from their taste, Alsace wines are also unique in that they have some of the easiest to understand wine labels in Europe - unlike their German neighbours on the other side of the Rhine. No need to bother with awkward place names and hybrid sids; the grape variety, printed in large letters on every bottle, will tell you almost all you need to know, and there is only one simple quality level - that of *appellation contrôlée*.

Of the six white grape varieties grown in Alsace, Sylvaner is often referred to as the workhorse grape and as I generally find most of the Alsace Sylvaner wines somewhat dull, I have decided to try instead the soft, fruity Pinot Blanc wines of Alsace, priced at roughly the same level.

One of the finest and fruitiest Pinot Blancs, that carried off a Gold Medal at the Macon Fair, is the '79 Clos de Strangenberg Pinot Blanc from Heim, available from La Vigneronne, 105 Old Brompton Road, London SW7, £4.35, and Widdruff Wines, The Barbach, Coochly Hill, Cirencester, £3.28.

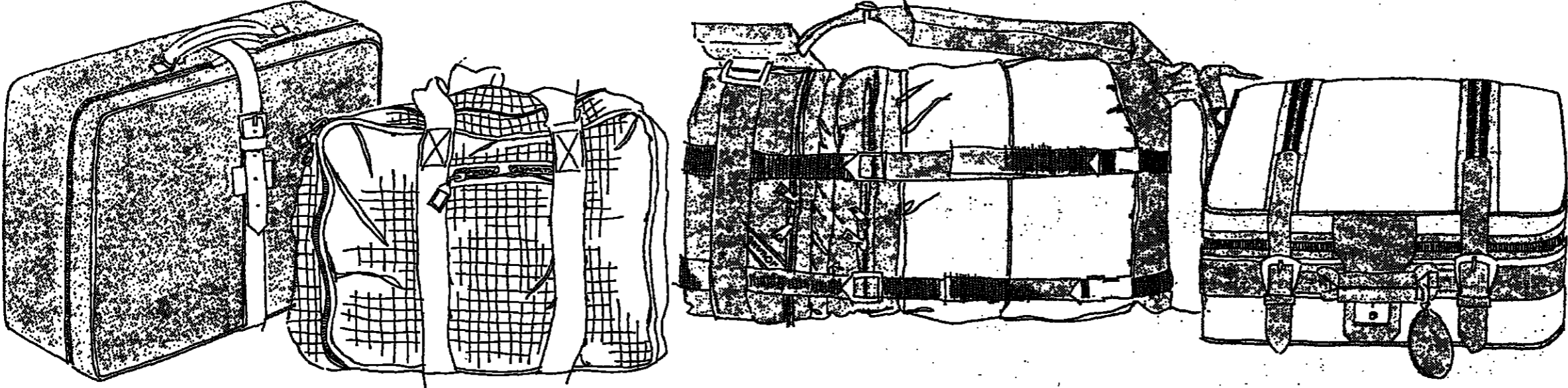
Excellent aperitifs, are the pungent Muscat d'Alsace wines; they are in the Alsace mould, but unlike the rest of the world's muscats are bone dry. Muscat wines account for only a very small proportion of the total Alsace crop and are difficult to find, but Louis Gisselbrecht has a stylish pungent and austere '81 Muscat (Henry Townsend, Chalk Pit House, Colshill, Amersham, £3.77).

The rich, full-bodied Tokay wines, better known as Pinot Gris, are similarly an Alsace rarity that like the Muscat d'Alsace are much enhanced with a bit of bottle age and Alsatians enjoy knocking back precious wines such as Hugel's '76 Tokay d'Alsace, Vendange Tardive (late harvest) (Les amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern Street, London W1, £15.80) with their highly prized speciality, Foie Gras de Strasbourg. However, it is the lively Riesling and spicy Gewurztraminer wines of Alsace that are this small region's finest wines.

The most austere Alsace Gewurztraminers may not be to everyone's taste, but a soft, fruity and delicately spicy example that should go down well with most palates is Hugel's Gewurztraminer (Peter Dominic, £4.29; W.H. Cullen, £4.70).

An impressive Riesling, from one of the finest Alsace vineyards at Hunnawir, is Trimbach's magnificent Clos St Hune '77 Riesling (La Vigneronne, £8.60) whose steely-slaty style seems to me having tasted several old vintages of this wine, to improve every year. Expensive, but worth it!

Jane MacQuitty



Travelling light and in style: Craftsman-made canvas Tanner Krollle suitcase (range about £200); bright, durable Sportsac, £32.95; Karatura rucksack, for the social climber, £95; status suitcase from Gucci, £130

### IN THE GARDEN

## Cascade of colour with aquatic plants

Water brings life into the garden, although still water is by no means as efficient as a small fountain or waterfall. But no matter how attractive, or necessary, if there are small children about I would recommend not including it; the shallowest pool can spell rapid disaster for the very young.

Siting a pool should be given considerable thought. Do not place it in the shade of a large tree or on the north side of a wall or building. An open site, away from deciduous trees, is preferable and do not forget that a water supply is needed; there may also be a need to empty the pool on occasion, and this should also be allowed for at the time of construction.

Pool planting - the best time

to start a water feature is from late April to the beginning of June. It involves not just the water area itself but the surrounding ground as well. There is a wealth of plant material for the water and for the ground close to it - those plants that are happy in heavy, wet soils.

Deeper pools are able to take the more splendid of the water lilies. Water Lily or Nymphaea are much sought after and are not difficult if the right quality is obtained. Albatross is white and will cover about 1 sq yd of pool surface.

Firecrest has pink flowers with deeper stems and will accept 18in deep water. *Laydekeri lilacea* is also pink but needs only about 9in of water. Red flowers come just the water area itself but the surrounding ground as well. There is a wealth of plant material for the water and for the ground close to it - those plants that are happy in heavy, wet soils.

flowers for 5in of water with heart-shaped leaves; *Hottentia palustris*, the Water Violet, needs a little deeper water - up to 12in.

Marginal plants are those which clothe the edge of the pool; they add interest and colour. *Iris kaempferi* with *Iris laevigata* are versatile as they will flower in the water or at the edge of the pool. *Calla palustris* the Bog Arum has white flowers and blends ideally with the Marsh Marigold *Calltha palustris* with its yellow flowers. *Lysichitum americanum* and *Lysichitum camtschaticum*, with yellow and white flowers respectively and very large leaves, are interesting plants for the pool edge.

Plants which will accept moist wet conditions, though do not grow in water itself, add further to the whole effect; they enable the interest to be maintained over a longer period. Astilbes suit the conditions as do the Day Lilies *Hemerocallis*, both provide colour as well as interesting foliage. Hostas is a big family and all will thrive. Primulas - in particular *florindae* and *bulleyana* - are good, but many of the primulas will do. *Angels Fishings Rods* or *Dianthus pendula* also like moisture; the flowers are on long stalks with pendulous flowers, hence the common name. Another slightly different plant is *Peltophyllum petatum*; this flowers in April to be followed by large leaves in the summer.

Trees and shrubs to clothe the surrounds but not getting too close to the pool finish the planting; when possible consider evergreens. *Cornus alba* and forms are good; the coloured stems are their best feature. Willows are noted for wet soils but in a small garden keep to dwarf varieties. *Salix caprea*, Goat Willow, reaches up to 15ft; *S.c. pendula* is even smaller, about 4ft high but spreading. *Amelanchier* and *Spiraea* are both good in wet soils and they are not too tall. *Acer negundo* is a small tree, as is *Forsythia perica* and they do add further interest. Where height and screening shelter is needed the *Cypripedium* and *Chamaecyparis* evergreen, is suitable and will tolerate heavy soils.

Ashley Stephenson

## Members of the board

when the chess world needed another boost of publicity. After winning the world title, Bobby Fischer became even more extravagant in his demands, quite impossible to lure back to the game was threatening to turn back the great chess tide which he had created. But his role as protagonist in the chess stage was taken with great bravado by Viktor Korchnoi. In the drama which followed, world champion Anatoly Karpov was dethroned by the underdog challenger, Fischer's crown in the latter's absence. Korchnoi emerged as official challenger only a year after he had defected from the Soviet Union. He was fighting not only for the title, but for publicity to obtain the release of his wife and son from his former homeland.

The world loved the politics and romance of the story and chess was news again. Two world championship matches later, the Korchnoi family was finally given permission to emigrate. Even his mother-in-law was allowed out. But Karpov remains champion of the world and Soviet Grandmasters still boycott events in which Korchnoi or other defectors are taking part.

The pre-match antics of Fischer and Korchnoi were neither chess nor cricket, of course, but most chessplayers secretly give thanks to this charismatic pair for the boost they have given the game. It has spread to our television screens and our computers. Grandmaster or beginner, we can all struggle at this simple game, with the guarantee of ultimate frustration. Truly it is the most entrancing and addictive waste of intelligence yet devised by man.

The author, whose pseudonym appears at the top of this article, is a former British chess champion and a journalist. Details of local chess clubs and forthcoming events can be obtained from The British Chess Federation, 9A Grand Parade, St Leonards-on-sea, East Sussex, TN 38 0DD.

dream. Since then, six of our players have qualified for the coveted title and the finances of the game have improved beyond the most optimistic hopes of earlier times.

Quite apart from the prize monies mentioned earlier, several major sponsors have emerged who together contribute more than £100,000 to the annual chess budget. Many of these sponsors come from the world of finance: stockbrokers Griesevan Grant generously support the British Championships each year, while Phillips & Drew have financed two Grandmaster tournaments in collaboration with the Greater London Council. Neither have the banks missed out: Lloyds have a £25,000 a year scheme to encourage chess in schools and universities, while the National Westminster have also recently joined the ranks of those helping to create opportunities for young players.

Perhaps even more striking than the proliferation of chess-players and tournaments has been the expansion of the chess book publishing industry in this country. A new chess title appears in England on average once every week. From the arcane *Queen's Pawn*, *Verstov System*, via the encyclopaedic, *Comprehensive Chess Endings*, to the frankly silly, *Soft Pawn*, their titles promise an endless series of keys to unlock the mysteries of the game. As the science of chess develops, its fashionable change and the serious player feels obliged to keep abreast of the growing body of knowledge. Books are a valuable aid to the acquisition of chess technique and chess-players are avid bibliophiles.

What Fischer did for chess was to alter the image of the game so greatly that it suddenly became a viable profession. For the first time Eastern European Grandmasters began to look with occasional envy at the career prospects of Western chessplayers and writers.

Through defections and legal emigration at least a dozen former Soviet chessplayers now play for other countries' teams. The best known of these emigrants switched loyalties just

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REVIEW Classical records of the month

A resolute hand for Brahms's best and worst

The box of big Brahms choral works conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli fulfils my hopes of its being a mighty, off-centre contribution to the monumental complete recorded edition from Deutsche Grammophon. It is an odd collection of pieces. It includes what is quite the worst Brahms I have yet heard, the *Triumphlied*, he wrote to celebrate the satisfactory conclusion of the Franco-Prussian War and the foundation of the German Empire; it is as noisy and unthinking as anybody's jingoism.

Brahms: Works for chorus and orchestra Soloists, Prague Philharmonic Choir, Czech PO/Sinopoli (DG 2741 019, four records)

Mahler: Symphony No 4 Popp, LPO/Tennstedt (EMI ASD 4344)

Weill: The Seven Deadly Sins Ross, CBSO/Rattle (EMI ASD 4402)

with commanding authority, and Brigitte Fassbender adds to the effect with her raked, unadorned singing of the recitative.

The *German Requiem* naturally provides fewer opportunities for this approach to be so single-mindedly pursued, but the calamitous nearness to death is the same, and so too is the authority. There is also some excellent solo singing, Lucia Popp is a bright angel of mercy in her moment, bringing human compassion while winging above human misery, and sounding always perfectly lovely.

Wolfgang Brendel has the eloquent reasonableness of the young Fischer-Dieskau. Since this set also includes several elegies not otherwise readily available, it makes a splendid commemoration of this Brahms year.

A more contemporary foray into the twentieth-century symphonic repertoire is provided by Klaus Tennstedt in his version of Mahler's fourth, and indeed by Simon Rattle in a recording of *The Seven Deadly Sins* that tilts the balance towards Kurt Weill's sweet-and-sour ambivalences and away from Brecht's preaching.

This is without a shadow of a doubt the most beautiful Weill playing I have heard, with the most beautiful Weill singing from Elise Ross. Meanwhile Tennstedt's Mahler cycle with the LPO presses on its way gloriously and unaffectedly with a fourth symphony of bright imagery, easy character, shifts and, again, exquisite singing from Lucia Popp.

Paul Griffiths



Classical arrangement (clockwise from top left): Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, Neville Marriner, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Mstislav Rostropovich

Arresting insights into Tchaikovsky's more serious songs

Tchaikovsky wrote more than 100 songs, most of which are still little known, though Söderström and Ashkenazy's first volume last year started a valuable recording project on its way. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau has surprised us by adding his voice to a catalogue which also includes Gedde, Souzay and Ghiaurov. He wisely focuses on 17 rarer examples of Tchaikovsky's miniature melodramas and laments rather than on the lighter lyrical and folk songs, and performs them with an idiomatic richness of expression, and a generally firm, if not always intuitive grasp of the inflection of word and note.

His accompanist, Ashkenazy's firm-stepping vigour in the "Promenade" gives a sense of joyful anticipation to a vividly imagined and brightly recorded gallery; conducting

significance, but the empathy of the two artists, epitomized by the tiny "Don't leave me" and their way with the mordant Slav harmonies of "Not a sound", brings a fresh, often arresting insight.

Tchaikovsky: Lieder Fischer-Dieskau/Ashkenazy (Philips 8514 115)

Russian Piano Music Vladimir Ashkenazy (Decca SKXL 7624/Cassettes KXDC 7624)

Chopin: Piano works Vol XIII Ashkenazy (Decca SKXL 7584/Cassettes KXDC 7584)

Brahms: Rhapsodies, waltzes, piano pieces Bishop-Kovacevich (Philips 8514/Cassettes 7337 223)

Brahms: The Cello Sonatas Rostropovich/Serkin (DG 2532 073/Cassettes 3302 073)

and making his own orchestral realization has enabled him to recreate afresh the inner voices and pulses within each piece.

Ashkenazy's thirteenth volume of Chopin has also just been released and includes two

rarities: the gently affectionate "Souvenir de Paganini" and the droll Introduction, Theme and Variations in D on an Irish melody, discovered only in 1964, which he and his wife play with gleeful picaresque.

Ashkenazy's Mazurkas (Op 68) are characterized by a taut, springing energy, supple enough never to become merely brittle, while the Waltzes, from Op 62 and 70, have a disarming, wayward simplicity which reminds us of their youthfulness.

This very simplicity is missing in the Nocturnes: tone-colours are most sensitively shaded, but their rubato too often sounds laborious and ill at ease.

Two more anniversary salutes are offered to Brahms this month. Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich presents the B minor and G minor Rhapsodies in per-

formances of both fierce impetus and impetuosity, fiery in their juxtapositions of mood, temper makes us aware first of the music itself and only second of the instruments that play it. The E minor is a subtle, mellow performance, its first movement long and slow to mature, its final biting deep into part-writing too often merely pecked at. Neither cello nor piano is afraid to go the limits of its own potential in the F Major here, in particular, a remarkable flexibility brings new muscle and meaning to Brahms's cross-rhythms.

Hilary Finch

NEXT WEEK: Richard Williams reviews a remarkable series of jazz reissues from the 1950s and 1960s, recreated in their original form.

Nicholas Kenyon

Compositions by another name sound just as sweet

Poor Pergolesi. The more we find out about his short life (he died at 26) the less he seems to have composed. Because of the fame of the *Stabat Mater* and a few other genuine works, he became a prime target for unscrupulous publishers around the turn of the eighteenth century - like Haydn, his name was enough to guarantee sales no matter what the product.

It has long been suspected that the six well-known Concertini often played as his were written by someone else. The attribution rested on slender evidence, and Charles Cudworth, who delighted in musical spuriousities of all kinds, noticed that they were identical with an anonymous set published in the Hague in 1740.

Now the musicologist Albert Dunning has tracked down the real composer: a noble dilettante by the name of Unico Wilhelm van Wassenaer, who had a distinguished diplomatic career and spent some time at the glittering musical court of Düsseldorf. Dunning found a handwritten copy of the music with an autograph note by Wassenaer which explains that they were written for concerts at the Hague, and that he allowed them to be published very reluctantly, on condition his name was not used.

but the record companies take the attitude of eighteenth-century publishers and still employ Pergolesi's name large on their covers. (Wassenaer does not get a mention on Argo's cover, though he is credited in the sleeve-note.) The change of authorship does not alter the fact that these are wonderfully attractive pieces, suave and gentle in their melodic flow, a touch awkward in their counterpoint - or perhaps that is just being wise after the event - but distinctively rich and varied in their scoring for strings.

Neither of these recordings appears to take any notice of the newly discovered text of the music, which has some small changes and extra ornamentation: the Academy use a largish

group and emphasize tutti-soli contrasts, while I Musici sound as if they are using one player to a part.

There is much more pleasure to be had from Marriner's sophisticated performance, in which speeds are well-judged and the string-playing has predictable smoothness, but I hope that now Holland has acquired an important composer - a Dutch band will record these pieces in their original versions with period instruments.

Neville Marriner's band is far better suited to the transposition from the eighteenth to the twentieth century found in *Pulcinella*. The Academy's old recording was splendid, and this matches it in verve and pungency while surpassing its sound quality. Robert Tear is an edgy tenor, and Yvonne Kenny a delightfully flutty soprano; Robert Lloyd is a little too boomy as the bass; but the voices scarcely matter beside the elating manipulation of rhythm and harmony with which Stravinsky massacred his originals, which the sleeve-note is still convinced are by Pergolesi. In fact, the latter provided fodder for only a couple of movements, and the rest may be credited to such unlikely characters as Domenico Gallo.

Nicholas Kenyon

Young man goes West to kill dragons

Steven Berkoff is surprised and delighted by his play *West*, which opens on Tuesday at the Donmar Warehouse after a week of previews. "I am amazed by it. It is a quite extraordinary play, considering that it was written three or four years ago."

Mr Berkoff is not hindered by false modesty in discussing the work, which he is directing after believing that it would never be performed. *West* was written as a sequel to *East*, his strong and successful evocation of life in the slums of the East End of London, which opened in 1975 and was subsequently performed at four theatres in London.

*West* failed to find a director after its commissioning by the BBC and before other plans could be made for it, Berkoff was busy with his next play.

Since then he has written and acted in other works including *Decadence* at the National Theatre, last year, and *Whisky*, and recently played a Russian villain in the new Bond film *Octopussy*.

West with its subtle *Welcome Back to Dalton Junction*, involves the characters from *East* and like the earlier play plays *East End* verbatim with Shakespearean verse, telling of the gangster business of Hoxton and Shoreditch Hill.

This sequel, says Berkoff, is about aspiration; the title refers to going to the West End and recalls the traditional exhortation to the ambitious young blood. "Go west young man."

"This is a play for heroes, symbolized in the character of Mike. He is a hero fighting like Beowulf against the dragon Greed. He is fighting against mediocrity and cowardice."

Berkoff here announces he is adopting his Thatcher-criticizing voice. "Thatcherism is the dragon, attacking idealism, criticizing the peace women when it should be supporting them. The state we live in worships mediocrity."

PREVIEW Theatre

Steven Berkoff's *East Enders*: From left, John Joyce, Bruce Payne, Berkoff himself, Ken Sharrock, Steve Dixon, Stella Tanner, Ralph Brown, Susan Kyril and Rory Edwards, the hero - "the only actor who could play the part better than me".

Performance times may vary over the Bank Holiday period. Check before going, using the telephone numbers given.

ANOTHER COUNTRY Queen's (734 1188) Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm and Sat at 5.15pm

Wars won on the playing fields of Eton are at the opposite end of Julian Mitchell's portrait of an English public school as a breeding ground for traitors. A fascinating production by Stuart Burge with a cast including Daniel Day-Lewis and John Douglas.

CRYSTAL CLEAR Wyndham's (836 3628) Mon-Fri at 7.15pm, Sat at 8.30pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm

The funniest farce for years, Michael Frayn's brilliantly conceived complex of on-stage disasters and backstage dramas is still keeping houses full and audiences helpless with laughter after its first cast-change. Phyllida Law, Benjamin Whitrow and the rest of Michael Blakemore's crack company give it the best of both worlds, the commercial hit and the critic's classic.

THE RIVALS Olivier (826 2232) May 3 at 7.15pm, May 4 at 2pm

EDMUND KEAN Lyric, Hammersmith (741 2311) Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8.15pm

Infinitely subtler than his recent TV version, Ben Kingsley's solo performance as the great nineteenth-century tragedian is one of the finest pieces of acting in London. Raymond Fitts-Stevens's script carries him from starry obliquity through Drury Lane triumph to a drunken death with style and an astringent sense of irony.

THE CONDERS Park Lane (836 2236) Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8.30pm and 8.30pm; matinee Thurs at 3pm

Packed with enchanting songs and boasting a witty performance by Dennis Lawson of acrobatic brilliance, Vivien Ellis's 1929

Critics' choice

musical recasts *Cinderella* in the anyone-for-tennis-eyes. Modes' staging (originally at the King's Head); but the production's speed and sparkle make it an intoxicating evening.

NOISES OFF Savoy (836 8888) Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm

The funniest farce for years, Michael Frayn's brilliantly conceived complex of on-stage disasters and backstage dramas is still keeping houses full and audiences helpless with laughter after its first cast-change. Phyllida Law, Benjamin Whitrow and the rest of Michael Blakemore's crack company give it the best of both worlds, the commercial hit and the critic's classic.

SMALL CHANGE Colston (826 2232) Today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm, May 2 at 7.30pm. In repertory Revival of Peter Gill's evocation of childhood in working-class Cardiff, assembled from numerous remembered details and dissolving the boundaries between past and present. An austerely beautiful production with fine performances from June Watson and James Hazeldine.

YAKETY YAK Astoria (437 6565) Final performances today, 8pm and 8pm

Robert Walker gets more than a little light in his recreation of 1960s America, a musical entertainment based on the rock songs of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Much more successful than Ned Sherrin's similar venture with *Only In America*, it is nevertheless hard to see why it is so successful.

In the Dark: Jenny Agutter is Grace in *The Body*, Nick Darke's black comedy set in a Cornish village. At The Pit (628 8795)

Out of Town

Performance times may vary over the Bank Holiday period. Check before going, using the telephone numbers given.

BELFAST: Lyric Players (0222 860061). The Hidden Curriculum by Graham Reid. Daily at 8pm. A play by a local writer, which attacks the inadequacies of the education system for its failure to help teenagers cope with life after school. Directed by Leon Rubin, with Denise Hewitson.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory (021 236 4455). The American Clock by Arthur Miller. Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm and 8pm; matinee Thurs at 2.30pm. The British premiere of Miller's latest play, which focuses on the tragedy and absurdity of America's Depression years. Directed by Peter Farrago, with Joris Stuyck and Ben Warriss.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Studio (021 236 4455). One Reputation by James Fennell. Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 8pm. A biographical play about the sad life of Ruth Ellis. Directed by James Nuttgens, with Joanne Allen, Peter Biddle, Susan Brown.

LIVERPOOL: Everyman (051 709 4776). Our Day Out by Willy Russell. Tues-Sat at 8pm. A musical comedy about a Liverpool family and its struggle for a better life. Directed by Andy Jordan.

LIVERPOOL: Playhouse (051 709 4776). City Echoes by Jimmy McGovern. Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm. The first play by a local teacher-turned-writer portrays a Liverpool family and its struggle for a better life. Directed by Andy Jordan.

MOLD: Theatre Chryd (0352 563371). The Virgin and the Gull by George Bernard Shaw. A new play by the Hungarian-born author of *How to be an Alien* and *The Prophet Motive*. Specially commissioned for and performed by Theatre Chryd, this is his third work for the stage, is a satire on the world of art dealers.

STRAFORD: Royal Shakespeare (0783 295623). Twelfth Night. May 3 and 4 at 7.30pm; matinee today and May 5 at 1.30pm. Directed by John Gair, with Miles Anderson, Gemma Jones, John Thaw, Zoë Wanamaker, Daniel Massey and Emrys James. *Twelfth Night*, his third work for the stage, is a satire on the world of art dealers.

STRAFORD: The Other Place (0783 295623). The Time of Your Life by William Saroyan. Today, May 2, 5 and 6 at 7.30pm. In repertory. The first RSC production of Saroyan's gentle comedy of the Depression years, set in a waterfront bar in San Francisco. Directed by Howard Davies, with Daniel Massey, John Thaw, Zoë Wanamaker.

WATFORD: Palace (0223 25671/2). Lilies by George Bernard Shaw. George Curzon from the *Magistrate* by Arthur Wing Pinero. Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm; matinee Wed and Sat at 3pm (Sat matinee: two seats for the price of one). Premiers of an adaptation of Arthur Wing Pinero's classic farce. Directed by Tony Turner, with Connie Booth, Anthony Bate, Paul Harwood and John Mills who, as Poelcott, is cast in a more serious role than in an earlier appearance more than 40 years ago; in a charming variety of roles that in Scotland, plus a colour sequence on London's urban landscape.

Photography

WORK AND WIT Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle upon Tyne (0632 322206). Until June 5, Tues-Fri 11am-6pm, Sat and Sun 11am-5pm

Since its opening in 1977 the Side Gallery has built up an impressive collection of documentary photographs by national and international names such as Bill Brandt, Robert Doisneau, Chris Kilip and Russell Lee. Ian Jeffrey, the historian who selected this exhibition from the archive, suggests that photo-documents have to be read with care and that an awareness of an individual photographer's political stance can sometimes help us in the way we view his or her pictures.

STONYPATH AND CITY LIGHTS Photography, The Foresters' Arms, Shaftesbury Street, St Leonards, East Sussex (0424 440140). Until May 21, Wed-Sat 11am-6pm

Photographs by John Stathos of Ian Hamilton Finlay's outrageous sculpture garden which is currently under threat in Scotland, plus a colour sequence on London's urban landscape.

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THE ESSENTIAL CUBISM

Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until July 16, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

The most spectacular collection of Cubist masterpieces to have been brought together in this country since the inception of the movement itself. The intention of the show is to educate us in the careers of several major figures of twentieth-century art, and in the evolution of modern art as a whole, and at the same time to knock us sideways with the sheer impact of so many monuments together in one place.

PERCY WYNDHAM LEWIS Anthony D'Offay Gallery, 9 Dering Street, London W1 (929 1578). Until May 14, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm

Exhibition of drawings and watercolours, including works once believed to have been lost. Covering the period 1910 to 1920, the exhibition includes examples of Lewis's vortical paintings, war drawings and portraits, among them one of Ezra Pound.

PAULE VEZELAY Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until May 22, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

The Anglo-French painter has recently celebrated her ninetieth birthday, and this retrospective is an overdue tribute. She was born in Bristol, spent many years in Paris, where she was involved in the abstraction-creation movement of the 1930s and returned to Britain in 1939. She was one of the earliest British artists to go over completely to abstraction, and her works indicate a refined taste and an unmistakable individuality which should be better known.

ALFRED WATERHOUSE Heitz Gallery, 21 Portman Square, London W1 (689 5533). Until May 28, Mon-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 10am-1pm

The almost infinite riches of the Royal Institute of British Architects' collection of architectural drawings are called upon to light up the dark places of Alfred Waterhouse's career. In the Victorian era, Waterhouse was renowned as a master of practical planning. His invention in surface detail makes him peculiarly satisfying to see in design form, and since he was a

KINGS AND QUEENS

The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, London SW1. Until July 1984, Tues-Sat 11am-5pm

The latest selection from the Royal Collection is just what it says. Pictures, often portraits, of kings, queens and their families, or at least of people who were to become kings or queens. The main emphasis is not on the big names, despite the presence of a couple of famous Van Dycks, but on the less familiar images: Charles I and his family by Hendrik Gerritsz. Wintour's glimpse of Queen Victoria and her consort in Restoration fancy dress. Sergeant's noble deathbed image of Edward VII.

ALVIN LANGDON COBURN: MAN OF MARK 1882-1966 Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool (051 227 5234). Until May 21, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm

In 1930 Coburn gave his collection of photographs to the Royal Photographic Society before destroying 15,000 negatives; this exhibition is drawn from the archive. Both portraits and landscapes - Regent's Canal, the Thames at Wapping, New York - are represented in a style which captures mood and atmosphere

BRITISH PHOTOGRAPHY 1955-1986 The Photographers' Gallery, 5 & 8 Great Newport Street, London WC2 (061 224 1989). Until May 14, Tues-Sat 11am-7pm

A curious period for an exhibition, but one which nevertheless embraces the closure of *Picture Post* and the birth of the Sunday colour magazine, was also a period that saw the birth of the young, with their need for heroes.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Galleries: John Russell Taylor; Photography: Michael Young



ENTERTAINMENTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

PERAHIA BEETHOVEN, SCHUBERT, MENDELSSOHN

LONDON MOZART PLAYERS Conductor HARRY BLECH

PHILHARMONIA Conductor RICCARDO MUTI

ALICIA DE LARROCHA Fauré, Pelléas et Mélisande Suite

SHEILA ARMSTRONG RYLAND DAVIES JOHN SHIRLEY-QUIRK

ROSSINI OVERTURE WILLIAM TELL Rachmaninov PIANO CONCERTO No. 2

THE BACH CHOIR A CHILD OF OUR TIME

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents SUNDAY 22 MAY at 7.30 p.m.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

CECILE OUSSET piano SIR ALEXANDER GIBSON

BRAHMS FESTIVAL To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the composer's birth

JESSYE NORMAN AND FRIENDS

ANDRE PREVIN conductor VLADIMIR ASKENAZY piano

BRAHMS MARATHON

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL MALCOLM BINNS plays CHOPIN

NARCISO YEPES First London Recital for over four years by the outstanding Spanish Guitarist

CHRISTIAN BLACKSHAW piano

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

YO YO MA BACH CELLO SUITES

ACADEMY OF LONDON Berkeley 80th Birthday Concert

ANUP KUMAR BISWAS JOHN LENIHAN piano

PURCELL ROOM

ENGLISH FOLK PLAYERS

ATARAFI BARD

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents CONCERTS AT THE BARBICAN

An Evening of FILM MUSIC

Music from Spain

THURSDAY NEXT 5 MAY at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY NEXT 6 MAY at 8 p.m.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

VIENNESE EVENING

OPERA GALA NIGHT

GLC South Bank Concert Halls

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL FOYERS OPEN

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

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riverside studios April 26 - May 15

City of London Festival

CONCERTS

APOLLO THEATRE

CONCERTS

CONCERTS

CONCERTS

CONCERTS

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ENTERTAINMENTS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Kensington SW7 2AP

POPULAR PRICES, 2,200 TICKETS AT £3 OR LESS One Ticket FREE for every five purchased

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents SUNDAY 22 MAY AT 7.30 TCHAIKOVSKY

GALA GERSHWIN EVENING George Gershwin: An American in Paris, Rhapsody in Blue, Piano & Jazz

ROYAL GALA CONCERT In aid of the Royal League of Friends ROYAL MARSDEN HOSPITAL

ROYAL ALBERT HALL THURSDAY NEXT, 5 MAY, AT 7.30 pm TO CELEBRATE ITS CENTENARY

LA COMPAGNIE DE DANSE POPULAIRE FRANÇAISE (Dir. Micolle & Michel Blaize)

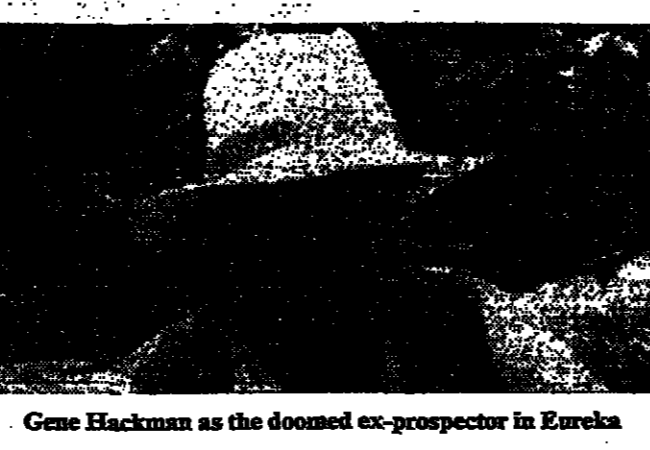
In aid of the RUGBY SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND Temple Speech Room RUGBY SCHOOL GALA CONCERT

St John's Smith Square London SW1P 3HA

THEATRES COTTRELL'S THEATRE NEW THEATRE

PREVIEW Films Gold beneath the surface in Eureka

Whatever audiences say on emerging from Nicolas Roeg's new film Eureka, they will hardly be saying "Eureka!"



Gene Hackman as the doomed ex-pro prospector in Eureka

Barbarosa (PG) Screen on the Green (226 3520) One of a dying breed - the Western; regrettably, this tale of Rio Grande revisits bedevilled

THE BEASTMASTER (PG) ABC Bayswater (229 4449) ABC Edgware Road (723 5801) ABC Fulham Road (370 2536)

ALL SCHEHERAZADE Tonight, 7.30 pm, Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool (051 728 8789)

THEATRES COTTRELL'S THEATRE NEW THEATRE

Critics' choice Ingmar Bergman's new film overflows with exuberance, magic, vivid colour and all shades of humour

Attborough's three-hour-long, carefully crafted and sumptuously photographed life of the Mahatma is a courageous attempt to film what many considered unfilmable

VENICE AND NAPLES May 6, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, London SE1 (828 3191)

KNUTA Bristol, Victoria Rooms, Queens Road (tickets from Colston Hall)

SOPHIE'S CHOICE (15) ABC Fulham Road (370 2635) Empire Leicester Square (437 1234)

WURTTEMBERG BACH May 3, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wimpole St, London W1 (935 2141)

FLUTE BACH May 3, 7.30pm, Purcell Room, Duke of York's Theatre

ROSEMARY AVENUE, LONDON EC1 Not short of a folie de grandeur or two, these leads

FILMS ON TV

A Bank Holiday always brings more films to television, assuming bad weather perhaps, but they are not necessarily good ones

actor Dustin Hoffman finding financial success and emotional turmoil as a female soap opera star

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PREVIEW Music

Placido Domingo and Kiri Te Kanawa rehearsing for their double debut on Tuesday

Opera COVENT GARDEN Tonight is the last chance to see Sir Geraint Evans in his last, virtuoso performance as Donizetti's Don Pasquale

ENGLISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA A good choice this week, with David Rodney's new production of Prokofiev's powerful Dostoevsky opera, The Gambler

SCOTTISH OPERA Their new production of Massenet's arch-romantic Werther comes to Glasgow's Theatre Royal tonight

NATIONAL OPERA STUDIO If you want to see a preview of the work of some of Britain's burgeoning young opera singers

The New York Times RICHIER THAN GETTY STRANGER THAN HUGHES THE BIZARRE TALE OF JACK McCANN

THEATRES COTTRELL'S THEATRE NEW THEATRE

JOHNNY MATHIS Tonight, Edinburgh Playhouse; Mon/Tues; Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham Wed/Tues

SPANDAU BALLET Tomorrow/Mon, Sadler's Wells

ROSEMARY AVENUE, LONDON EC1 Not short of a folie de grandeur or two, these leads

EUREKA SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AT FROM MAY 5



THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

MOTORCYCLING: The Marlboro Transatlantic Trophy held over three days in Britain is part of the match challenge series between Britain and the United States...

CRICKET: For the first time cricket takes advantage of the May Bank Holiday for the opening series of the County Championship...

LANDSCAPE ARTISTS: The Arts Council exhibition "Landscape in Britain 1850-1950" features the work of 200 artists...

NATIONAL HORSE RACING MUSEUM: The Queen opens this new museum set in the home of English horse racing...

2,000 GUINEAS: The first colts classic of the season. Champion trainer Henry Cecil and his stable jockey Lester Piggot team up with Claris...

SNOOKER: The Embassy World Professional Championship reaches the final stages this weekend, with extensive BBC coverage...

RUGBY CUP FINALS: Leicester are the favourites to beat Bristol in the John Player Cup Final...

THE KERRYGOLD INTERNATIONAL: Three days of international showjumping lead up to the Kerrygold Cup on Monday, 2.30pm...

BAKER'S BRAHMS: Richard Baker presents a profile of the composer in the first of eight programmes celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth...

WESTERN AND INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC: The cellist Anup Kumar Biswas, his brother Aloke Biswas and Deepak Choudhary play an unusual programme...

Tomorrow

MAYFEST: Glasgow's first International Festival of Popular Theatre and Music includes performances by 25 companies from East and West Europe...

ST MARK'S GOSPEL: Alec McCowen gives his last three performances of the season. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank...



In action this week: Princess Alice, remembering (Monday); Jenny Lee Smith, competing (Wednesday); Alex McCowen, gospel reading (tomorrow)



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HENLEY AHEAD: Booking is now open for Henley Royal Regatta which this year takes place June 30 to July 3...

Monday

INGMAR BERGMAN: One of the many delights of Fanny and Alexander is its collection of old dark tones in bright new bottles...

KENNEDY AND VANDERBILT: Jaclyn Smith plays Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy in a dramatization of her life from the age of five until her husband's assassination...

HEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The sale of May 5 and 6 containing superb arms and armour, ivories and works of art...

PRINCESS ALICE REMEMBERS: Russell Harty talks to HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester at Kensington Palace...

Tuesday

SADLER'S WELLS: Dennis Arundel talks about "300 Years at the Wells" in the first of a series of lectures to celebrate Sadler's Wells's tercentenary...

NOSTALGIC FASHIONS: A twenties' rust-silk velvet opera cloak, an Edwardian white broderie Anglaise dress, a Canton shawl of embroidered ivory silk...

OPERA AND BALLET: Tonight a new production of Manon Lescaut opens at Covent Garden, the National Opera Studio is at Bloomsbury Theatre and the Ballet Rambert visit Norwich...

GODARD AND FRIENDS: Viewed from one angle, this selection of films admired by Godard is just old repertory re-jigged, though any excuse is a good excuse for showing...

NOEL AND GERTIE: An entertainment by Sheridan Morley drawing on the work and casual writings of Noel Coward and the parts he wrote for Gertrude Lawrence and her autobiography...

Wednesday

THE TROJAN WAR WILL NOT TAKE PLACE: Giraudoux's pre-war play about the Trojan war, in which Hector struggles to preserve peace in the face of Jostic's fervour...

WHAT DO MPS DO?: Richard Needham, MP for Chippenham, reveals what his voters think his is there for. Party professionals hold first-time candidate seminars for the General Election...

NOVA MULHER: The Festival of Brazil begins with a two-part first film in a season intended for family audiences (no unaccompanied children) is The Golden Voyage of Sinbad...

today and of Brazilian women artists based in Europe. There are 10 of the former and nine of the latter, and among them they cover a wide variety of media...

GOLF FOR LADIES: The Ford Ladies Golf Classic is the first major ladies' tournament of the year and has the biggest total prize fund, £20,000, in the 1983 WPGA Tour...

RHODOENDRON SHOW: The main show of the year comes on a big competition and large displays. New rhododendra being raised include the smaller yakushimuran hybrids...

CLAUDE LÉLOUCH: In Britain Lélouch is a neglected, unfashionable director, but this season salutes his distinctive gifts, culminating on May 11 with the British premiere of Les uns et les autres...

EDUCATING RITA: Julie Walters and Michael Caine play pupil and teacher in Lewis Gilbert's film adaptation of Willie Russell's play. Cart 15. Classic Haymarket (839 1527) Warner West End (438 0791)

COUNTRY WAYS: A new comedy by Julia Jones, about a pair of emigré Londoners who opt unsuccessfully for the country life. Directed by John David, with Moray Watson and Pauline Yates...

ANCESTRAL VOICES: A new festival of traditional arts, with 12 performances of music, song, stories and dance from India, Arabia, West Africa, the British Isles and the southern United States...

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Thursday

HEVER CASTLE COLLECTION: The collection of arms and armour formed by William Aubrey in the early years of the century is the most important group to come on the market for 50 years...

BALLET: Sadler's Wells Ballet bring their new production of Swan Lake to Covent Garden.

ROEG REVIEW: Nicolas Roeg's film Europa opens in London. See page 7.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: The latest in the RSC season of transfers from Stratford is directed by Terry Hands, with Derek Jacobi as Benedick, Siobhán McKenna as Beatrice...

PROSPECT OF PROMS: Today the prospectus for the Proms is published from newsgagents and bookshops, price £1, or by post, £1.55, from SBC Publications...

OPEN HOUSE AT GIBBONS: Stanley Gibbons celebrate the introduction of compulsory pre-paid postage on May 8, 1840. Includes a philatelic quiz with the prize of a framed Penny Black...

OTHER WORLDS: Premiere of a play by Robert Holman, set during the Napoleonic wars, and telling of a feud between the fishermen of Robin Hood's Bay and the farmers of Pyllyngthorpe...

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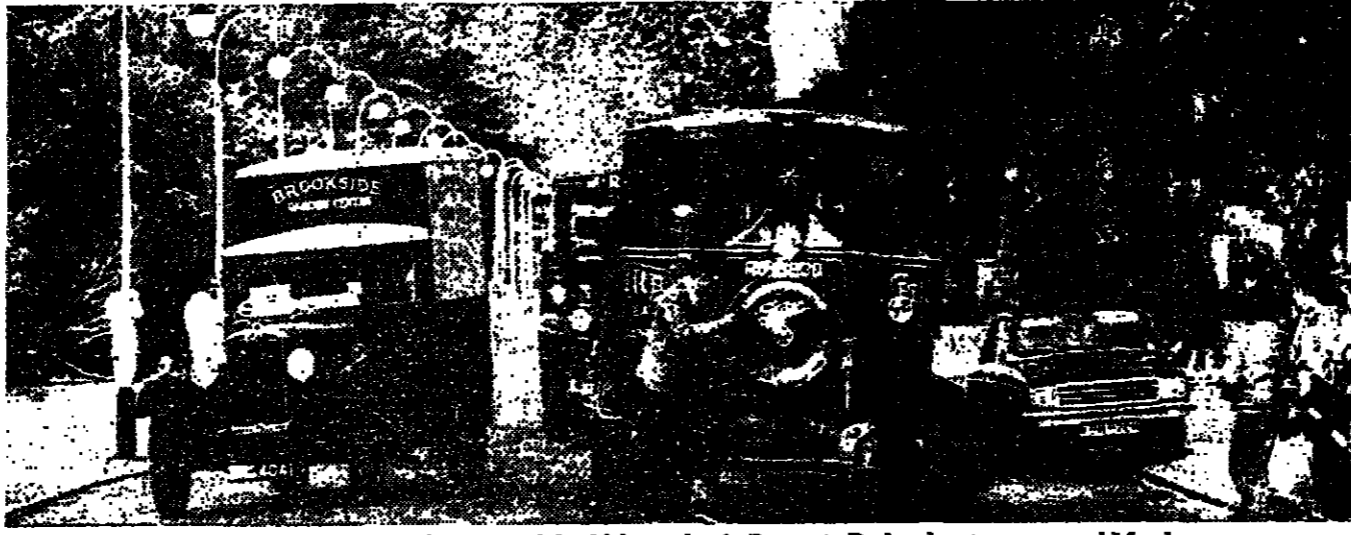
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Dahl: Tea on Monday



Wheels of industry: Historic commercial vehicles gather in Battersea Park today, tomorrow and Monday



Muzro: Tomorrow, NFT

Chess

Entertaining brevity in bygone Berlin

The Finnish international chess-master, Eero E. Böök, who is famous for having lost a beautiful game to Alekhine at Margate in 1938, has the engaging habit of sending me news of chess events in Finland from time to time...

Now he has sent me details of a strong international tournament that took place at Helsinki from March 15-27. First prize went to the Swedish grand master Lars Karlsson who scored 8½ points out of 11...

Also, aware of my taste for chess history, he has sent me a historical sketch (his own words) of the celebrated Russian player and theoretician Carl Friedrich Jaenisch, who was in fact by birth a Finn (in Vippuri).

In an accompanying letter he says he has often wondered whether Jaenisch conversed with his friend Staunton in English or whether Staunton spoke French. I should explain that the Finn had come to London in 1851 too late to play in the celebrated first international tournament ever but had played, and lost, a match against Staunton.

From his writings it is clear Jaenisch had a mastery of French, but whether he also spoke English I do not know. But there is another point on which I myself seek enlightenment. Böök gives Jaenisch's date of birth as April 23, 1813, whereas I, in my encyclopaedia, give it as August 11, 1813, as also do the Italians Chicco and Porreca, in their encyclopaedia. The chess historian, Dr Linder, gives it as April 11, 1813, which, give or take some days having regard to the Gregorian calendar, would seem to support Böök's dates. Perhaps a reader may have something enlightening to say about all this.

Meanwhile let me heartily recommend a new book in the Pergamon Russian Chess series, entitled Comprehensive Chess Endings by Y. Averbakh and V. Chekhover, 213 pages, £12.50. This is Volume 1 and is on

Harry Golombek

From historic car rallies to hot-air ballooning, this weekend abounds with Bank Holiday events. Judy Froehang makes her choice of outings in London and around the country.

In addition to the May Day activities listed, local traditional celebrations with old customs, including maypole dancing, cheese rolling and Morris dancing, will be taking place tomorrow at Market Place, Wells, Somerset; Randwick, near Stroud, Gloucestershire; Welford-on-Avon, Warwickshire; Bargate Green, Boston, Lincolnshire; and the Black Country Museum, Dudley, West Midlands.

WHEELS OF YESTERDAY RALLY: Battersea Park, London SW11, Today, tomorrow and Mon, from midday. More than 250 entries of wheeled vehicles and engines classed as eligible by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Society...

THE BATTLE AND SIEGE OF WITTON CASTLE: Witton Castle, Witton in Wear, near Bishop Auckland, Co Durham. Tomorrow and Mon, midday-5.30pm.

FUN RUN: South Leeds Sports Centre, Beeston Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire. Tomorrow, starts 11am. CROPTHORNE WALKABOUT: Crophthorne, near Evesham, Worcestershire. Tomorrow, 2-5pm. Variety of village gardens open to the public, exhibitions, stalls.

TRADITIONAL MAYPOLE DANCES AND PUNCH AND JUDY: Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Mon, 11am-5.30pm. Adults £2.50, children £1.25. As well as May Day celebrations, there is an exhibition of sculpture, corn dollies and embroidered pictures in the castle. Also from today until May 7, the national hot air balloon championships are taking place.

CRAFT FAIR AND MAYPOLE DANCING: Witton House, Witton, near Salfisbury, Wiltshire. Mon, 11 am-6 pm. Adults £1.50, children £1.

HEAVY HORSE DISPLAY: Chickett St Thomas Wild Life Park, Chard, Somerset. Tomorrow, from 10am. Spring working of heavy horse in harness and display of stationary

Grand parades at about 3.30pm each day. HISTORIC COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ROLL: Battersea Park, London SW11, Today, tomorrow and Mon, from midday. You need to be an early bird to see the 180 vehicles (which include a 1920s K-type bus and Dennis fire engine) before they set off to Brighton, where they must arrive by midday.

BEAUTIFUL BRITAIN DAY: Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London, EC2. Mon. To launch Beautiful Britain Year - a joint DOE and Keep Britain Tidy venture - there will be a variety of free entertainment throughout the day at the Barbican. Performances on the lakeside terrace, sculpture court and terrace foyer from midday include music and maypole dancing, Scottish and Elizabethan music and dance, a craft market and a Welsh male voice choir. There will be free continuous cinema programmes in Cinemas 1 and 2, and Humphrey Lyttelton and his Band in the foyer 5-7 pm. Also two performances in the Barbican Hall: at 3 pm, Atrah's Band's Children's Concert (£1.50-£3.50); at 7.30pm, Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus in a programme of Walton, Elgar and Holst (£2-£7.50). Box office for both: 628 6795.

LONDONERS' FESTIVAL: Victoria Park, London E9. Tomorrow, 11am-9pm. More than 30 musical groups, including rock, reggae, steel bands, silver bands and jazz. Free film and theatre, mobile zoo, various pageants, inflatable, grand firework display at 9pm.

FESTIVAL OF MOTOR SPORT: Lydden Circuit, near Canterbury, Kent. Tomorrow and Mon. Adults £2.50, children eight-15, £1, under eight, free. Road racing for motorcycles and side cars on Sunday, 5-7 pm. Also two performances in the Barbican Hall: at 3 pm, Atrah's Band's Children's Concert (£1.50-£3.50); at 7.30pm, Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus in a programme of Walton, Elgar and Holst (£2-£7.50). Box office for both: 628 6795.

FAMILY DAY OUT: Shipley Country Park, Coppice Side, Slack Lane, Hemor, Derbyshire. Tomorrow, 10am-6pm. Car park 50p, admission free. A variety of events, including hot air balloons, aerobics displays, police-dog demonstrations, craft and antique fairs, flamework, many stalls and parascending.

BANK HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES: Belvoir Castle, near Grantham, Leicestershire. Tomorrow and Mon, 11am-7pm. Adults £1.50, children £1. On Sunday the City of Leicestershire Fire Brigade Museum Society, with a large display and demonstration of fire engines. On Monday, the Rallye Sports Owners Club meet and displays by the Galloway Dancoers.

LOCAL FLYING DAY AND FIRE ENGINE DISPLAY: Duxford Airfield, Imperial War Museum, Cambridge. Tomorrow, gates open 11am. Adults £1.50, children 80p. Demonstration flights by vintage aircraft from 2pm. Displays and cavalcade of more than 50 fire engines, with display of fire rescue techniques, 11am-1.30pm.

THIRD EAST OF ENGLAND HOME AND GARDEN SHOW: Lifford Park, near Oundle, Northamptonshire. Tomorrow and Mon, 10am-5pm. Admission to park and show: adults £1.50, children 75p. Designed as a day out for the family, particularly those with garden interests. Full range of house and garden products for sale, craft demonstrations, children's farm.

WHEELS OF YESTERDAY RALLY: Battersea Park, London SW11, Today, tomorrow and Mon, from midday. More than 250 entries of wheeled vehicles and engines classed as eligible by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Society...

Bridge

Gourmet fare too rich to digest at a sitting

For the last fortnight, bridge players have enjoyed the unprecedented luxury of watching two bridge programmes on television. The format of the BBC's Grand Slam is well established. In Master Bridge, Channel 4 has treated the subject in an exciting and totally different manner. Where the BBC leans on the players' thoughts to guide the viewer, David Einstein, Channel 4's imaginative producer intersperses the lively commentary with snippets of the players' remarks.

Master Bridge appears simultaneously with an elegant book of the same title, written by Nicola Gardener and published by Macmillan at £5.95. I have no doubt the programme will enjoy a justified succès d'estime. But this is bridge in 1993 or maybe even 2003; in an understandable search for perfection, the hands prepared to test the experts are the caviar and foie gras of the game. To explain them with sufficient clarity to satisfy a mass audience would, I believe, be virtually impossible. Both visually and audibly it was easy to become distracted, as at a cocktail party with a group behind you enjoying a conversation more interesting than your own. The intoxicating brilliance of the rich bridge feast is too much to absorb in one short sitting.

A further problem, which could not reasonably be anticipated, was the unpredictability of the experts in every department of the game, as this hand, from the first programme, demonstrated. I have re-orientated it to make South the supposed declarer.

North South game Dealer West

W N E S 10 20 30 40

W N E S 10 20 30 40

W N E S 10 20 30 40

W N E S 10 20 30 40

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Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 695.3 down 1.5 FT 100: 81.55 down 0.05 FT All Shares: 441.08 up 1.74

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5605 up 10 pts Index 84.2 unchanged DM 3.8475 FF 11.54 Yen 371.25

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Base rates 10 3 month interbank 10 1/2% 10 1/2%

PRICE CHANGES

Booth C, 23p up 5p Massey-Ferguson, 310p up 65p Crest Int, 12.5p up 2p Memory Comp, 215p up 13p

Wall St hit by profit taking

New York (Reuters) - Stock prices were hit by profit-taking yesterday and turned mixed in morning trading, with the sellers concentrating on the blue chip stocks.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off about six points but advances still led declines by a margin of seven to six.

Losers among the blue chip stocks included IBM, off one to 116 1/2, American Express two to 66 1/2, International Harvester 1 1/2 to 9 1/2, and Allied Corp one to 45.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department reported yesterday that the index of leading economic indicators rose for the seventh consecutive month in March with a 1.5 per cent gain, which confirmed the fact that a healthy recovery is under way.

Findings undermine America's hands-off approach Currency intervention controls wild fluctuations, study group says

Intervention in foreign exchange markets to damp down speculation has been beneficial, a leading international study group concluded yesterday.

The working group on Exchange Market Intervention, set up after the Versailles summit of seven leading western industrialized nations last year, gives strong support to those who oppose the entrenched American position which is that markets must be left to find their own level.

The report, named after M Philippe Jurgensen, the working party's French chairman, examines summit countries' attempts to intervene between 1973 and 1981 and concludes that intervention had been "an effective tool in the pursuit of certain exchange rate objectives".

It warns, however, that attempts to pursue exchange rate objectives inconsistent with fundamental trends in inflation and trade balances "tended to be counter-productive".

run exchange rate trends than either short-term market movements or prices in the market for forward currency.

The report suggests that intervention can be helpful to remove a range of causes of exchange rate volatility such as unsettled trading conditions, seasonal influences or disorderly markets caused by confusion over official economic policies.

Central banks can usefully intervene to reduce the extent or pace of movements. It found that "bandwagons" could develop, where day-to-day movements themselves determined future price trends.

It found that central banks had in several cases successfully bought time when they judged that market traders had failed to understand changes in economic fundamentals or in policy.

Mr Richard Harker, operations manager in charge of the Asda supermarkets chain within Associated Dairies Group, has been recruited by Woolworth Holdings as one of a new team of top men to bring round the ailing retail giant.

Tactics and skirmishes before war

Merchant banker S. G. Warburg has acquired a considerable reputation over the years as a successful defender in takeover battles, and an innovator in the field of tactics.

However, Warburg's first real shot in the battle seems to be more of an innovation than a really serious attempt to defeat BTR's bid at this stage.

It is a legitimate tactic, since the size of the proposed acquisition requires approval from BTR shareholders before the bid can go ahead at all.

The formal defence document has not yet been published, and there are no forecasts of profits or dividends on the table.

Put another way, it has earned itself this number of words, while the BTR camp has restricted itself to announcing that further market purchases have raised their Tilling stake to 9 per cent and a disparaging comment on the Warburg offensive.

High exports swing trade into surplus

Britain's trade with the rest of the world swung sharply back into surplus last month after the big deficits recorded in the first two months of the year.

The monthly figures tend to be erratic, but the March figures were greeted with cautious optimism in Whitehall.

Asda chief for Woolworth



Mr Richard Harker

Mr Richard Harker, operations manager in charge of the Asda supermarkets chain within Associated Dairies Group, has been recruited by Woolworth Holdings as one of a new team of top men to bring round the ailing retail giant.

City expects new Linfood bid

An improved bid for the Fitch Lovell food group by Linfood Holdings seemed in prospect yesterday after Fitch announced a £34.5m deal for Safeway Stores to take over Fitch's Key Markets grocery chain.

The timing of events would suggest that an improved bid must be an option being considered by Mr Alec Monk, the Linfood chairman.

Howden loses £14m but A & A 'is benefiting'

Alexander Howden, the Lloyd's insurance broker at the centre of the re-insurance scandals which have caused turmoil at Lloyd's of London for the past nine months, lost £14m last year.

Company chief allays concern ICL strategy 'on course'

The recovery strategy which ICL put in place after its near-collapse in 1981 is still on course, Mr Robb Wilnot, the managing director, said yesterday.

Warburg cuts tie with Paribas

S. G. Warburg, the merchant bank, unravelling most of its formal ties with Paribas, the nationalized French banking group, since 1973, Warburg and its holding company Mercury Securities, has had extensive cross-shareholdings involving Paribas' European operations and, until last month, a jointly-held stake in the American investment bank A. G. Becker.

Mr David Scholey, Warburg's joint chairman, said yesterday that the two groups would still work together but Warburg wanted to take a more direct involvement in its international activities rather than operating through associated companies.

Rumasa's deficit 'may top £1bn'

The outstanding deficit of Rumasa, the banking, wine trading and hotels group expropriated by the Spanish authorities this year, could be considerably higher than pesetas 200 billion (about £1 billion), the company's new Government appointed administrator, Senior Ricardo Goytze, said in London yesterday.

Senior Miguel Boyer, Spain's finance minister, estimated the deficit at about 200 billion pesetas.

Wilmot defends original choice

ICL and IBM (Mitel's other collaborator) breathing down their necks. I believe we will see this world leadership later this year.

Why not send for details?

...and, among the smaller groups, Perpetual continues to show its staying power in achieving a consistently above-average performance.

Advertisement for PERPETUAL GROUP GROWTH FUND. Features a large graphic of a mountain peak and text describing the fund's performance and investment philosophy.



FAMILY MONEY

Improved terms

CROWN LIFE has improved the terms of its pension mortgage plans to include life assurance benefit up to £50,000 with no medical or occupational inquiries.

Four-year bond

Despite uncertainty about interest rates, Crown Life is still offering a four-year Guaranteed Income Bond paying 8.25 per cent net p.a. (equivalent to 11.78 per cent gross for a basic rate taxpayer).

Mortgage offer

Chase de Vaux, the mortgage broker, is offering building society loans of between £80,000 and £100,000 without documented proof of income at a negotiable interest rate of between 12 and 14 per cent.

Goldbugs chance

Goldbugs have yet another opportunity to invest in their favourite metal with the launch today of M & G's Gold and General unit trust.

past that fund managers try to jump on bandwagons by launching or advertising trusts when the market is at a high. M & G says it would obviously have preferred to launch the fund six months ago and it is not trying to capitalize on gold's recent performance.

Rolac backed

The Government is keen to see the insurance industry hammer out a new agreement on commission. Mr Robert McCrindle, MP, said at the British Insurance Brokers' annual conference.

Investment idea

IF YOU HAVE at least £2,000 to invest you may be interested in Capital Life's Guaranteed Growth Bond. There is a choice of investment periods up to 10 years with the amounts payable at the end of the period guaranteed at the outset.

The rate currently being offered is 9 per cent per annum and there is no liability to basic rate tax on the policy proceeds, this is equivalent to 12.85 per cent gross for basic rate taxpayers. If you invested £5,000 it would grow as follows:

1 year	£5,450
3 years	£6,475
5 years	£7,280
10 years	£11,837

INITIAL OFFER M&G GOLD

The M&G Gold & General unit trust will invest for capital growth through a portfolio of gold mining shares based on South Africa, North America and Australia. An interest may also be taken from time to time in companies concerned with other precious metals.

Gold has been regarded throughout history as the ultimate measure of wealth and the ultimate hedge in times of uncertainty. The price of gold has been on an upward trend almost continually during the present century, accelerating in the past 20 years.

A well managed portfolio of gold mining shares tends on average to outperform the metal price, and it offers the additional advantage of a dividend yield. The estimated initial gross yield is 3 1/2%.

M&G have proved their expertise over recent years in the management of gold funds, largely through the medium of gold mining shares. The Group acts as adviser to a specialist overseas gold fund valued at approaching US\$30 million.

It is seldom possible to judge the best time for investing in gold shares, due to their volatility, but we firmly believe that they should form a proportion of the portfolio of every serious investor.

Unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money that you may need at short notice. The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

Initial Offer During the initial offer period we are increasing the number of units allocated by 1% for investments of £2,500 and above. Existing M&G Unitholders will receive this extra allocation on any investment (minimum £500).

No acknowledgements will be issued, but Certificates will be posted on or before 30th June 1983. Once the initial offer has closed units can be bought or sold on any business day at the price then ruling by writing to or telephoning The M&G Group (Unit Dealing Department), Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Telephone: 01-626 4588.

annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund to be deducted from gross income, but for the present the Managers propose to restrict this charge to 4% (plus VAT). Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. Agents should ensure that during the initial offer period cheques are made payable for the full cost of the units since M&G will account for any commission owed in due course.

M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, 91-99 NEW LONDON ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM2 0PY.

INITIAL OFFER

During the initial offer, which will close on 20th May 1983, existing M&G Unitholders will receive an extra 1% allocation of units. This extra investment is also available to non M&G investors of £2,500 or more.

The Managers reserve the right to close the offer at any time and you are recommended to apply as soon as possible.

To: M&G Securities Limited, Group Accounts, 91-99 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0PY.

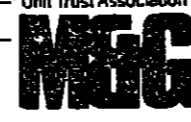
Please invest £ in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable or Accumulation units will be issued) of The M&G Gold & General Fund at 50p each (minimum investment £500). My cheque made payable to M&G Securities Limited, is enclosed. Applications MUST INCLUDE CHEQUES.

Are you an existing M&G Unitholder? YES/NO

02	MR/MRS/MISS	FULL FORENAMES
SURNAME		
04	ADDRESS	
POST CODE		
90 GL 481813		

SIGNATURE Member of the Unit Trust Association

DATE Rep. Office in England No. 00776 Reg. Office, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.



Homebuyers angry as Miras clawback mauls pay-packets

Homebuyers were shocked when they opened their pay packets this week to discover themselves worse off than expected. The telephone hasn't stopped ringing with readers complaining that the reduction in their mortgage repayments with the introduction of Miras (Mortgage Interest Relief At Source) is considerably less than the cut in their take-home pay, and they are out of pocket.

Mr Neil Kinnoch, Labour MP, lost no time in accusing the Government of "diddling" homebuyers but it is the building societies who should be attacked.

The discrepancy between the cut in take-home pay and the reduction in mortgage repayments comes about because of three factors. First, mortgage interest relief granted last year was based on a 13.5 per cent mortgage rate when by the end of the year the rate was down to 10 per cent. The reduction in mortgage interest relief this year not only takes account of a lower mortgage rate, but also the extra tax relief granted last year which must be "clawed back". This would have happened regardless of the introduction of Miras and is definitely not a "diddle".

If anything, homebuyers were lucky to have been getting tax relief last year above that to which they were entitled.

But the reason the discrepancy between take-home pay and the new net mortgage repayment is so large is because of the way the societies have chosen to implement Miras.

By offering borrowers only the "constant net repayment" option which evens out tax relief throughout the term of the loan, borrowers receive less tax relief in the early years of the loan than under the old system.

Of the main societies, only the Halifax has operated in the best interests of its customers, giving borrowers the option to remain on the old system with high tax relief in the early years, declining as the loan is repaid.

Worst off are those bank borrowers who have lost mortgage interest tax relief in their tax codings; are suffering the "clawback" because of the over allowance last year, and are not being offered a lower mortgage repayment by the bank. Of the

Allow PAYE coding credit to be applied to your tax code	1565	2664
Basic rate tax	1565	1265
Higher rate tax	1565	429
Lower rate tax	1565	306
Other tax	1565	1857
Total	1565	429

Homebuyers tax codings for 1983-84 have been dramatically reduced with the introduction of MIRAS.

big four banks, NatWest Bank's customers are unaffected.

But the Inland Revenue estimates that around 50,000 borrowers with Midland, Barclays, Lloyds and other banks have lost their tax relief in the coding, but have not been given a lower mortgage repayment.

The Revenue admits that it is not the fault of the banks which were asked to supply names of customers with "qualifying" loans (those eligible for mortgage interest relief). The banks duly supplied this information but the Revenue was not fast enough in processing the data to enable the banks to calculate the new lower repayments.

"Those borrowers who find they are not getting their tax relief by either system should immediately get in touch with their tax office which will put matters right as quickly as possible by arranging for relief to be given in their PAYE codings or tax assessments. Loans which have not been brought into the new scheme will be brought in next year,"

says one Inland Revenue.

Allowing for these cases where there has been a clear error, it seems that many taxpayers still cannot understand why they are so much worse off.

Discounting the not insubstantial number of cases where the Revenue has made a mistake, there are several factors which combine to take a large slice out of take-home pay.

First, and most important, homebuyers' codings for the 1982/83 tax year were based on the March 1982 mortgage rate of 13.5 per cent. With a current mortgage rate of only 10 per cent, take-home pay would have gone down even if Miras had not been introduced.

For example, a homebuyer with a new £20,000 loan would have been granted tax relief for 1982/83 on interest payments of £2,700 (£20,000 at 13.5 per cent). This year, the entitlement would be reduced to approximately £2,000 (just less than £20,000 at 10 per cent).

This alone would account for a reduction in take-home pay of £210 a year to a basic rate taxpayer, even if Miras had not been introduced.

The second factor is that the extra tax relief granted last year must be clawed back during 1983/84. The homebuyer loses tax relief from his coding by an adjustment - in the case of a borrower with a £20,000 loan an adjustment of just less than £400 - to take account of the over allowance of tax relief in 1982/83.

Interest actually paid would have been £2,333 compared with the £2,700 allowed for in 1982/83's coding. This clawback will account for a further reduction in take-home pay of £110 a year for a basic rate taxpayer, in total his coding allowance will be reduced to the tune of £3,100, worth £930 a year to a basic rate taxpayer or £77.50 a month.

But repayments to the building society have not been cut by £77.50. In March the borrower with a £20,000 loan would have been paying £183.80 a month to the building society. From this month, mortgage repayments will have been reduced to £143.20 - a cut of only £40.60.

This is where the building societies become the villains. Had Miras never been thought of, our borrower with a £20,000 loan would have continued to make gross repayments of £183.80 a month on which tax relief worth just under £50 a month would have been allowed, making a net mortgage repayment of £133.80. So why are borrowers having to hand over £143.20 under Miras?

The answer is because of the way most building societies have chosen to implement Miras. Of the main societies, only the Halifax has allowed borrowers to opt to remain on the present system with higher tax relief in the early years of the loan. The other societies are claiming that they cannot cope with recalculating mortgage interest relief anew every year and have gone over to the "constant net repayment" system.

The only answer is to write to your building society and say you want to continue with the old repayment profile - not the constant net repayment scheme.

Avoiding the unnecessary

Now that this year's higher national insurance contributions have begun to bite, more and more people are finding that there is big money involved. Yet, surprisingly, each year millions of pounds in national insurance payments are made unnecessarily.

On top of this, the 100,000 or so people who find themselves in this position every year tend to do very little about the matter. Most are quite content to sit back and let the Department of Health and Social Security

pay back the money later. Because of the national insurance arrangements which came into operation in 1975, national insurance has to be paid in every job a person has, be it self-employed or as an employee.

As a rough guide, anyone who pays voluntarily more than £1,100 in national insurance in 1983/84 could be in line for a refund.

Broken down into simple weekly terms it works like this. In 1983/84, the maximum weekly earnings on which contributions are due,

are £235. Take the case of a man who during the year expects to earn £250 a week in his main job and £50 a week from part-time work. As he will meet the maximum requirement in his main job, he can avoid having to pay any contributions in his second job by applying to defer them.

Alternatively, take the case of someone who has three jobs and earning, say, £150, £95, and £40 a week respectively. Because wages in jobs one and two take him over the limit, he can ask for

contributions on job three to be deferred. And because he will still pay more than the maximum in jobs one and two, he can look forward to a refund at the end of the year as well.

The DHSS produces two leaflets which give full details. *More Than One Job* (no NP18) is for those who work as employees, and *Class 4 Contributions* (no NP18) is for those who have a mixture of employed and self-employed jobs.

Ian McDonald

GOLD OFFER M&G CAPITAL BUILDER

Start a plan linked to M&G Gold Bond before 20th May and get 5% extra invested from your first year's payments

Investment in Gold can be volatile and regular saving through a Capital Builder Plan can solve the problem of timing your investment. The M&G Capital Builder Plan is designed for investors who wish to build up capital out of regular savings. Because it includes life assurance cover M&G reclaim tax on your behalf and add it to your payments (provided that your total life assurance premiums do not exceed the greater of £1,500 p.a. or one sixth of your total income).

Age at start	The percentage invested depends on your age and how much you pay each month			
	£12-£14	£15-£19	£20-£39	£40 upwards
Up to 35	110.5%	114.1%	117.6%	121.1%
36 to 40	109.4%	112.9%	116.4%	120.0%
45	107.0%	110.5%	114.1%	117.6%
50	102.3%	105.8%	109.4%	112.9%
55	95.2%	98.8%	102.3%	105.8%

NOTES: The percentages apply to both men and women, and assume acceptance on normal terms and tax relief at 15%. If the rate changes, the net amount you pay will change accordingly. Percentages for intermediate ages fall between the figures shown and are available on request.

Your money is invested in the M&G Bond Fund of your choice from the list in the application form below. You can switch from one Fund to another at any time, subject to a small fee (currently £10). Anyone aged 18 to 55 can start a plan. The minimum net payment is £12 a month and there is no maximum. Your plan matures after 20 years, but you can cash it in whenever you like after one year's premiums have been paid.

£4,800. The unit price reflects the value of the assets held in the Fund and will fluctuate accordingly. The plan provides immediate life cover of 15 times your gross annual premium (i.e. the amount you pay plus tax relief). Your first two years' premiums buy Capital units; subsequent premiums buy Accumulation units. The offered price of both units include a 5% initial charge. Accumulation units carry an annual charge of currently 3 1/2% and Capital units an additional annual charge of 4 1/2%. Although you can cash in your plan at any time after you have paid one year's premiums you are recommended not to do so for at least four years, to avoid a forfeit of tax relief. Accumulation units are always encashed for their bid value; there is a deduction from Capital units on early encashment which reduces to nil after 10 years, e.g. you would receive 68% of their value after two years, increasing by 4% for each subsequent year. Accumulation unit prices are reported daily in the Financial Times and Capital unit prices are available from M&G on request. You have no personal liability to tax on capital gains but higher-rate taxpayers are advised to continue payments for at least 10 years, for tax reasons. Tax payable by the Company on capital gains is reflected in the price of units. Actual rights as between policyholders and the Company will be governed solely by the terms of the policies and a specimen policy form is available on request.

The future value of your plan will depend on your starting age and the performance of the Fund you choose. For example, if a man of 35 started a £20 net a month plan and the unit price grew at an average annual rate of 10%, he could expect to receive £14,440 after 20 years for a total net outlay of

M&GLIFE, 91-99 NEW LONDON ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM2 0PY.

To get 5% extra invested in the first year of your plan, circle Gold in the list below and return this form by 20th May 1983

I WISH TO PAY £ net of tax relief each month (minimum £12) on an assurance policy with benefits linked to the Fund of my choice ringed opposite.

I enclose my cheque for the first net monthly payment, payable to M&G Life Assurance Company Limited. I understand that this payment is only provisional and that the Company will not assume risk until formal acceptance has been issued.

FULL FORENAMES: SURNAME: ADDRESS: POST CODE: OCCUPATION AND NATURE OF BUSINESS: DATE OF BIRTH: DAY MONTH YEAR: SIGNATURE: DATE:

To: M&G LIFE, 91-99 NEW LONDON ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM2 0PY.

DECLARATION I/We cannot sign Part B below delete it and sign Part A only. I/We declare that the premiums will be paid by myself or by my spouse and the payer of the premiums will be resident in the U.K. I consent to M&G Life seeking information concerning my physical or mental health from any doctor who has attended me or seeking information from any insurance office to which a proposal has been made for insurance on my life and I authorize the giving of such information. Any deception, made by me in connection with this proposal shall be the basis of the contract between me and M&G Life Assurance Company Limited.

I/We declare that to the best of my belief I am in good health and free from disease; I have not had any serious illness or major operation; I do not engage in any hazardous sports or pursuits and no proposal on my life has ever been adversely treated. (You must disclose any facts likely to influence assessment of this proposal if you are in doubt as to the relevance of any particular information you should disclose it as failure to do so may affect the benefits payable.) Do you have an existing M&G policy? YES/NO



FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks Current account - no interest paid. Deposits - 6 per cent. Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, NatWest 8 1/2 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Monthly income account Natwest 9 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1 month 9.25 per cent, 3 and 6 months 9 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Money funds Seven-day deposits. Simco 7-day fund - 9.84 per cent. UDT Average Rate Deposits - 9 1/2 per cent. Western Trust fund - 7.74 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Further details from: Simco 01-236 0233, UDT 01-623 3020, Tyndall 0272 732241, Western Trust 0752 281161, Mallinghall 01-489 6984. Save and Prosper 0708 869696, Tuffet & Piley 236 0952.

National Savings Bank Ordinary accounts - interest 3 per cent, or 6 per cent if £500 is maintained, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account 10 1/2 per cent interest paid

without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000. National Savings Certificates 25th issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.51 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond Min investment £5,000 reducing to £2,000 from 3 May. Max £200,000. Interest - 11 per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index. Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1983 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1982 and October 1983. 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 Retirement Issue certificates purchased in May 1978, £174.96 including 4 per cent bonus.

Guaranteed Income Bonds Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.

2 & 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent min investment £1,000. 4 years General Portfolio 9.15 per cent min investment £1,000. 5 years Canterbury Life 9 per cent min investment £1,000.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers), 1 year Lambeth 9 1/2 per cent, 2-3 years Nottingham 10 1/2 per cent, 4-5 years Knowsley 10 1/2 per cent, 6-10 years Worthing 11 1/2 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 24808.

Finance house deposits (LDT) Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. Fifty-fifty scheme: 6 month 5 per cent, 1 year, 10 per cent, 2 years, 10 1/2 per cent.

Foreign currency deposits Rates quoted by Rothchild's Old Court Ltd. Reserves 0481 2674. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Finance for industry Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 9 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 2-4 years, 10 1/2 per cent; 5 years, 10 1/2 per cent; 6 years, 11 1/2 per cent; 7-10 years, 11 1/2 per cent. Further information from FFI, 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 0JL 028 7822.

Building societies Ordinary share accounts - 8.25 per cent. Term shares - 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 0.75 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those

US dollar 8.25 per cent, D Mark 8.25 per cent, French Franc 8.25 per cent, Swiss Franc 4.25 per cent.

March RPI: 327.3 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

THE M&G GROUP

408/001250



FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Pensions

# How to take problems out of the biggest investment in your life

In a couple of months, the 12 million members of Britain's occupational pension schemes will be able to seek advice, locally and free, on what for many of us is the single biggest, and most misunderstood investment in our lives. Survey after survey demonstrates the most appalling apathy and ignorance of employees, many of whom are paying up to 7 per cent of their salaries into occupational pension schemes - often against their will and in the conviction that it is all an enormous fiddle.

down pension schemes of former employers to claim a frozen pension. Widows, according to Miss Grainger, often need advice about their husband's scheme. The trouble with all these well-meaning plans is that pensions, by their nature pose complicated problems. Opas would for example give advice to an employee pondering whether to accept a frozen pension, take a transfer and explain the meaning of the options. "Often the

have been fairly treated by the pension fund within the terms of its own trust deeds. "We will offer a personalised service where people have not been able to get satisfactory answers from their trade union representative or the company concerned", she says. What about pension schemes with rotten rules? "Even if you don't have teeth in that sense, you can still have great influence," says Miss Grainger diplomatically. But Opas is not, at the moment, intended to be an arbitration service, such as that provided so successfully by the Insurance Ombudsman, which is a shame. None the less, it should fill a much needed gap, if the queries about pensions being received by all kinds of agencies, including the CAB are anything to go by.

### Widows often need advice about the rules of their husband's scheme

employee doesn't know whether his employer will let him transfer, we would have to find out what the scheme rules are. What Opas will not do is take up the cudgels on a member's behalf, arguing for a higher transfer value, for instance. The new organization, which is still not quite sure where all the £50,000 needed for its first year of operation is coming from, does not intend to be a ginger group. In any case, according to Miss Grainger, it fully expects to find that most of the referrals will prove to

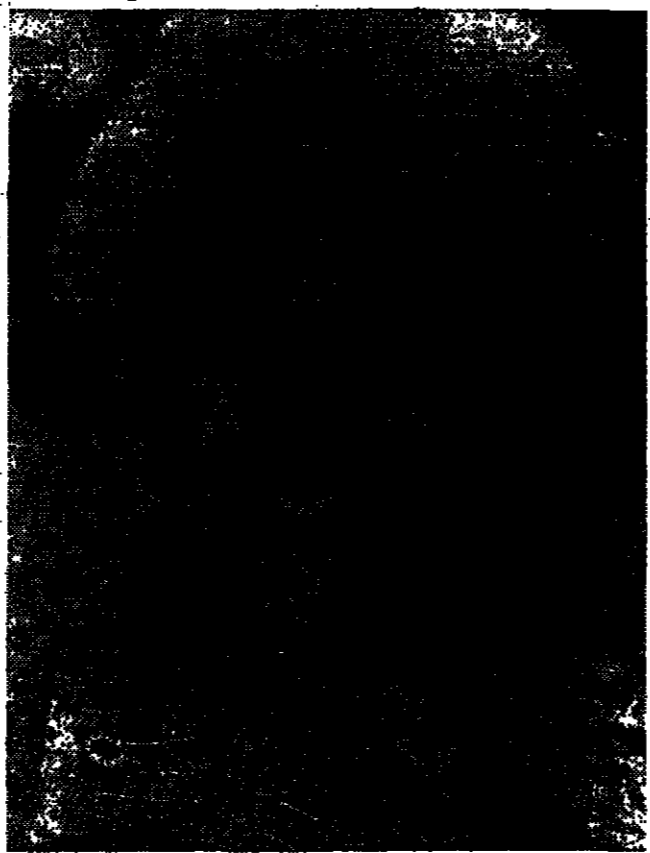
Trading very cautiously comes senior civil servant, Miss Margaret Grainger, with Occupational Pensions - Advisory Services (OPAS).

OPAS is trying for charitable status, and will probably be partially funded by the pensions industry. It is linking up with the Citizens Advice Bureau to provide a pensions information service at CAB's 850 branches, backed up by a panel of local, and central pensions experts.

Miss Grainger describes it as a "supplementary" service, designed to give fairly unsophisticated advice and explain to pension fund members what their rights are. She wants to set up a tracing agency. One big problem, apparently is tracking

CAB workers, 90 per cent of whom are voluntary will be trained to deal with pension queries: hence the two month gap before the service starts. Behind them there will be local experts to handle more complex inquiries. Eventually inquiries can be made to a central panel of advisers. The main problem Opas faces is being overwhelmed by inquiries.

Margaret Drummond



Miss Grainger: explaining pension rights

Property Bond

# Vanbrugh pays price for dependence on brokers

Investors in Vanbrugh Life's property bond were shaken a couple of weeks ago when the company cut its unit price by 13 per cent to try to stem a run on the fund. This almost unprecedented move in the industry, dismayed not just Vanbrugh's own investors but many others with holdings in the 50 or 60 property bonds on the market.

Property may have been an uninspiring investment over the last couple of years, but Vanbrugh's move in changing the valuation basis of the fund was not prompted by any collapse in market prices, but the volatile nature of its own business - a total dependence on brokers and lump-sum investment for which both the company and its investors are now paying the price.

Vanbrugh is selling £10m of properties from its £65m property bond portfolio - a sharp reminder of the fact that this kind of investment is vastly more illiquid than, say, equities. Ironically, it believes that the economic plan predicted this week, will soon start to show in property values. So, according to the group, investors have been sitting tight. "Investors saw better opportunities elsewhere", Mr Graham Fortescue marketing director says. In recent months, more than

£7m has been switched from the property fund, hardly surprising in view of the way equity markets have been performing. The trickle of switches and redemptions looked like becoming a flood and the group used up virtually its whole liquidity before cutting the price of the units to deter further withdrawals.

When a fund is moved to a "bid" basis, as was Vanbrugh's, the notional costs of selling the properties in the fund and any capital gains tax liability is deducted from the unit price. This reflects the fact that more money is going out than coming in - theoretically, the investments might be sold to meet the withdrawals. In practice, managers do not want to be forced into the position of selling investment properties, so withdrawals are met out of the cash liquidity margin which is between 10 and 20 per cent of the portfolio in most funds.

Many property bonds have been in a net redemption situation for much of the past year and have gradually eased the unit price down somewhere between the offer and bid basis - both Save & Prosper and Abbey Life are using this "intermediate" basis at the moment. So why was it necessary for

Vanbrugh to make such a sudden move and risk damaging investors' confidence?

Vanbrugh, a subsidiary of the Prudential, is a marketing-orientated company totally dependent on insurance brokers for its business. It is also, in its property bond 95 per cent geared, to single premium investment - one off lump sum purchases, unlike most other life companies which have a much higher, probably well over half, of their property bond sales coming from regular premium policies - such as pension and maximum investment plans. The net result of this is that Vanbrugh's property bond was particularly vulnerable.

When several brokers decided to switch clients funds out of the property bond there was a crisis. Arguably, Vanbrugh was less than prudent in holding its fund on an offer basis - which favours those getting out at the expense of those staying in - when other, far less exposed groups had compromised with the "intermediate" basis of valuation.

Most other life companies have a better mix of business, and a sales force as well as brokers, but they are wary of the problem in the light of Vanbrugh's experience.

Trusts

# Suspended firm blames owner's 'problems'

Investors in Isle of Man based Richmond Life's Gemstone Trust are concerned about their money. Dealings in Gemstone Trust were suspended on March 31 and since then it has been impossible to buy or sell units, so the fund's 562 investors are just sitting tight - and hoping. The problem has been caused by the difficulties of Gems International the sapphire brokers, whose London and Guernsey offices have been closed down. Calls are being referred to the company's accountants who maintain that Gems International is still in existence. But they say little else.

Mr John Ormond, Richmond's chairman, says Gems International's troubles down to big problems affecting Gem's ultimate owner, Nils Nylan, a Swedish businessman. Mr Ormond says he first became aware of Gems International's problems last August. He thought they were short term and capable of being resolved.

As late as December 10 Richmond Life was telling insurance brokers, "an investment in the Gemstone Bond should be beneficial". Mr Ormond said this week that he was trying to work out a deal with another gemstone broker, but refuses to commit himself on when the fund will be re-quoted or what valuation will be placed on the stones.

In the meantime, his advice to investors who have put money into Richmond's fund is, "Forget it for the time being. Given time, we think it will come right again".

Richmond's Gemstone Fund was formerly known as the Sapphire Fund and was marketed as "a unique opportunity for the discerning investor". The fund's name was changed last November to reflect the broader aim of investment in other Gemstones such as Thai rubies.

Peter Garland

### Capital and income bonds

# Law spells end to high-tax avoidance

The Government has clamped down on the controversial "capital and income bonds", a highly artificial device whereby higher rates of income tax can be avoided.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said in an answer to a question in the House of Commons: "In recent months it has become clear that there had been serious, and growing, exploitation of this device. In order to safeguard the Exchequer from a potentially substantial loss of tax, the Government intends to propose legislation, in the form of a new class at Committee Stage of the current Finance Bill

measures will be to deny qualifying status to any policy, which is connected with another policy, or policies, if any of the policies provide "unrealistic benefits", said Mr Ridley.

The biggest promoters of capital and income bonds have been Scandia Life, Albany Life, Merchant Investors and, to a lesser extent, Providence Capital and Transinternational Life. An estimated £250m has been put into the bonds since Scandia launched its contract in 1981.

The Government's move came as no surprise to the industry, although Mr Edward Fairman, of Merchant Investors, said he was disappointed that a contract, considered by the company to be a legitimate use of existing legislation, should be discontinued in this way.

None of the member offices of the Life Offices Association issued Capital and Income bonds. The legislation will not affect conventional income bonds or growth bonds.

Capital and income bonds are an arrangement by which profits arising on investments in unit-linked single premium policies which are "non-qualifying" are shifted artificially to a qualifying policy so that the proceeds of the qualifying policy are taken tax-free on maturity. "The effect of the proposed

# Accountants move in at £10m advisers

Staff were refusing to allow in, or to speak to callers at the Mayfair offices of investment advisers, Exchange Securities and Commodities, yesterday. A team of accountants led by Mr Stephen James, of Thomas McLintock, have moved into the company's premises in London and the head office in Warwick, after a petition by the Department of Trade for the compulsory winding up of six companies in the Exchange group.

customers. The London office in Hertford Street, Mayfair, was opened when Exchange expanded from its original commodity investment service into general investment advice last October. Investors were reassured that several Exchange companies were licensed dealers in securities and subject to control by the Department of Trade.

It is not yet known whether Exchange kept customers' funds in a separate client account. If not, investors' money could eventually be used to meet the companies' liabilities if the winding up petition, due to be heard in the High Court on June 13, is successful. Ironically, the Department of Trade published the new rules for licensed dealers this week, which stipulate that, from June 1, all clients' funds must be kept separate from the firm's money.

# How Abbey National

# CHEQUE-SAVE

## can cut the cost of paying out.

It's very simple. Because Abbey National's new Cheque-Save Account is a cheque account that pays real interest.

You make money on the money you've put aside - for major bills say - but haven't yet had to pay. In fact you earn interest on it right up to the moment your payment cheque is cleared.

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If that cash were earning interest for a few months before you need to pay it, it would add up to substantial extra holiday money!

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# can cut the cost of paying out.

The higher your balance, the better the interest you'll enjoy, as the table shows.

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£1 - £499	4.00%	5.71%
£500 - £999	4.50%	6.43%
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£2,500 - £4,999	5.75%	8.21%
£5,000 - £30,000	6.50%	9.29%

These rates are variable. \*Equivalent gross rate where income tax is paid at the basic rate of 30%.

And when your balance crosses into a higher interest band, our sophisticated computer will ensure your whole balance moves automatically on to that higher rate. No forms. No fuss. No delays.

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(And that £300 isn't lying idle - it's getting interest all the time!)

THE MORE YOU KEEP IN, THE MORE YOU MAKE

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To Dept. CS.2, Abbey National Building Society, FREEPOST United Kingdom House, 180 Oxford Street, London W1E 3VZ.

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RUGBY UNION: JOHN PLAYER AND WELSH CUP FINALS

Leicester's seen-it-all, won-it-all men for all finals have a slight edge

By David Hanks, Rugby Correspondent

In the last five years, Leicester have had every kind of cup final experience. They have won, they have lost, they have been favourites and won without style, they have been outsiders and won with verve, they have come from behind, they have led from the start. The only thing they have not done is drawn which, as Gloucester and Moseley will say after last year's final, is an experience best avoided.

Davies of England, has perfected the technique of the timed arrival and the tap-down of a high kick to his support. Similarly, Barnes will be aware that Dodson is a new-comer to the full back position, and will wish to put him through his paces. If either side can pick up a score by these tactics early in the game, so

men, Mike Rafter and Peter Polledri have few peers as winners of possession on the ground, or as supporting cast when the ball is among the backs. One of Leicester's injury doubts has been the flanker, Ian Smith, their nearest equivalent to Rafter. However, Smith, Dodge, Barnwell and Gilling-

Paths to the final

BRISTOL: Third round: Harrogate 22-15 (away); Fourth round: Gloucester 20-10 (away); Quarter-final: West Hartlepool 18-14 (away); Semi-final: Coventry 19-9 (away); Leading try scorer: J Carr (10). A. Morris (4).

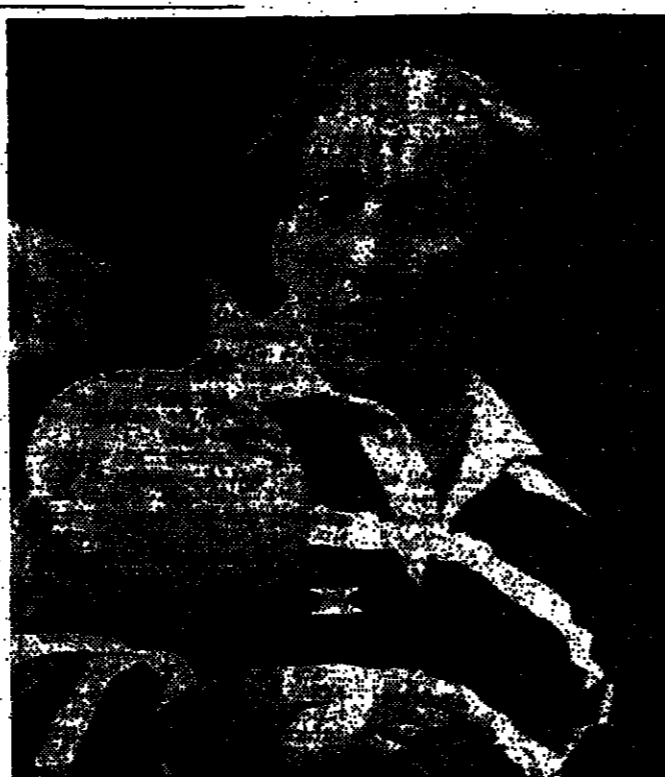
LEICESTER: Third round: High Wycombe 47-14 (home); Fourth round: Wakefield 14-10 (home); Quarter-final: Harrogate 18-14 (home); Semi-final: London Scottish 20-9 (away); Leading try scorer: J Barnwell (4).

ham, all came through a stiff training evening on Thursday, and Bristol will find the young Leicester No 8, Dean Richards, moves around as quickly as many flankers. Richards is one of the game's most promising young men, even if his senior experience is strictly limited. This will be his first appearance at Twickenham, of any kind.

It is Leicester's hope that, by scoring tries, they will compensate for the absence of Hare. Indeed, this is one of the most intriguing aspects of a final which may draw a record crowd of 30,000 - how will Leicester fare without the equable Not-

tinghamshire farmer behind them? And can both clubs serve up the kind of fare that will put a shine on an unhappy English season? That they can there is no doubt. To predict that they will be to place too great a weight of expectation on willing shoulders. Both clubs are there to win the cup; if they can do so by running the ball, some 13,000 Leicester supporters, some 7,000 Bristolians and a few thousand uncommitted others, will be privileged. But if

a penalty goal by Barnes, or a drop goal by Casworth proves the difference, and it could well be as little as that, it will be no surprise at all. That means that Mike Gratton, Gerry Helme, Glynis Penny, and Kathy Binns can confirm their programme leading up to Helsinki. Jones's career. Last year's London victory in May was his last marathon, and he has yet to do the Helsinki qualifying time of 2hr 17min.



No Hare: but Casworth (above) could swing it for Leicester

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ATHLETICS

Jones is in for a marathon struggle

By Pat Butcher

Rugby Jones runs his first half-marathon in almost a year in London tomorrow, as he strikes to see if he has recovered from his operations and recent injuries, and can make a serious challenge for the vacant marathon place in the British team for the world championships in Helsinki in August.

The marathon selections for both Helsinki and the European Cup in Spain in June were made yesterday, but because of the difficulties of informing athletes over the holiday weekends, the teams will not be announced until Tuesday. John Le Mesurier, chairman of the British selectors, said yesterday that the selections were fairly straightforward, implying that the prior notice of the importance of the first two places in the London marathon would be honoured.

That means that Mike Gratton, Gerry Helme, Glynis Penny, and Kathy Binns can confirm their programme leading up to Helsinki. Jones's career. Last year's London victory in May was his last marathon, and he has yet to do the Helsinki qualifying time of 2hr 17min.

Jones had operations on both of his Achilles tendons before Christmas, and minor injuries have since hampered his comeback. He has no class opposition in tomorrow's East London Half Marathon, but a time close to 61 minutes would do much for his confidence, and his resolution to qualify for Helsinki.

BOXING: Wilfredo Gomez (Puerto Rico) announced yesterday that he is giving up the World Boxing Council junior featherweight title he has held since 1977 in order to move up in weight.

MOTOR RACING

Arnoux clips Piquet time at Imola

From John Blunsden, Imola

The charge of the turbo continued here yesterday when they filled the top 10 places in the first qualification period for tomorrow's San Marino Grand Prix. For much of the time the battle for pole position was led by Nelson Piquet in his Brabham-BMW and Alain Prost in a new Renault similar to, but a little lighter than, the car he used to win the French Grand Prix.



Arnoux: delighted locals

It was a contest which Piquet, who has yet to be beaten on this circuit, looked like winning. But six minutes from the end René Arnoux and his latest Ferrari, incorporating a new rear suspension and weighing 20kg less, delighted the ever-loving local spectators by clipping more than a tenth of a second off the Brabham driver's time to head the list at the halfway stage in qualifying.

Although Patrick Tambay continued his run of bad luck in the top 10 places in the first qualification period, the failure in the other Ferrari, at least his long walk home occurred during the untimed practice period. Despite being cancelled on his quickest lap with qualifying tyres, he is currently fifth fastest behind the two Renaults.

The fastest time in a three-litre car was set by Marc Surer, whose Arrow-Ford is still painted white in anticipation of some much-needed sponsorship for the team. It is possible that this will be forthcoming in time for tomorrow's race from a local source, while the team director, Jackie Oliver, has received an approach from the Arab world concerning longer-term backing. Surer's performance was eloquent testimony to the good balance of the Arrow chassis - a vital ingredient on a circuit with several chicanes which call for sudden and tidy changes of direction.

John Watson was troubled by a mysterious handling problem on his Marlboro McLaren, while Niki Lauda's car lost engine power during the timed run. He will be equipped with the latest Ford DFY engine overnight, as will Nigel Mansell's JPS Lotus, which the driver says is performing better this weekend than at any other time this season.

year. A further chassis improvement is planned overnight.

Donk Warwick's Toleman has appeared with a new version of the Hart turbo-charged engine incorporating twin spark plugs per cylinder, but some electronic interference caused the engine to misfire at 9,000 rpm, hampering his acceleration out of the slower corners. In the circumstances, therefore, his time was encouraging, and tomorrow Toleman, like Lotus, will be using a new design of Pirelli race tyre. Should the race be a wet one, all the Goodyear runners will be using the first of a new generation of radial rain tyres.

QUALIFYING TIMES: 1. R. Arnoux (Ferrari), 1min.32.45sec; 2. A. Prost (Renault), 1min.32.52sec; 3. M. Surer (Arrow-Ford), 1min.32.58sec; 4. P. Tambay (Ferrari), 1min.33.21sec; 5. A. de Cesaris (Alfa Romeo), 1min.34.45sec; 6. M. Alboreto (Ferrari), 1min.35.00sec; 7. M. Wittmann (ATV-Saur), 1min.35.01sec; 8. E. de Angelis (Lotus), 1min.35.02sec; 9. D. Warwick (Toleman-Hart), 1min.35.07sec; 10. D. Warwick (Toleman-Hart), 1min.35.08sec; 11. M. Surer (Arrow-Ford), 1min.35.22sec; 12. J. Watson (McLaren), 1min.35.25sec; 13. M. Alboreto (Ferrari), 1min.35.28sec; 14. R. Pons (Brabham-BMW), 1min.35.34sec; 15. M. Surer (Arrow-Ford), 1min.35.39sec; 16. J. Watson (McLaren), 1min.35.42sec; 17. J. Lauda (Ferrari), 1min.35.43sec; 18. D. Siffert (Williams-Ford), 1min.35.44sec; 19. M. Surer (Arrow-Ford), 1min.35.45sec; 20. J. Watson (McLaren), 1min.35.46sec; 21. J. Watson (McLaren), 1min.35.47sec; 22. J. Watson (McLaren), 1min.35.48sec.

Pontypool have try-scorers too

By Gerald Davies

If the twice-told tale can be believed, then the Swansea team who face Bay Fosse's Pontypool in today's Welsh Cup final sponsored by Schweppes, will have grown weary and grey during their preparation over the last week in assessing Pontypool's strength. In Hall, the Swansea coach, has talked endlessly of the threat that will come from the opposition's formidable pack, whose activities will be orchestrated by Bishop, their scrum half. To consider any victory would be time wasted. Pontypool are unlikely to use their three quarters.

By no means then, can the threequarters be considered superfluous to Prosser's requirements. Nonetheless, the match will revolve around the forwards. Since they have several claims for back row positions, and in order to make maximum use of their talent at forward, Butler, the Pontypool captain, will play at lock.

He did a few weeks ago against Cardiff, when he had the better of Norris, the new British Lion. He will presumably oppose Moriarty, although Swansea allow their locks to change positions. Clegg, whose fourth appearance this is in a final, will contest the front of the line against Perkins, who can consider himself unlucky not to be going to New Zealand.

Pontypool, with their inflexibility, must win at forward if they are to stand a chance of winning the match. There is no alternative for them. Swansea are well-equipped to play, while Swansea, their centre, has scored 13 and Bishop 33.

But it is really as simple as that? Statistics might suggest otherwise. As if to contradict the easy assessment that Pontypool will rely on their pack for possession and on Lewis to kick goals, the season's details show that they have scored 207 tries and amassed 1,300 points. Swansea, the team with the better reputation, have scored only 168 tries and 1,000 points. Admittedly, Swift, who will play at centre today, and Emry, their wings,

have collected 48 tries between them; but the Pontypool pair, Davies and Taylor, have scored 16 each, while Emry, their centre, has scored 13 and Bishop 33.

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Eddie Butler plays at lock

RUGBY LEAGUE

Leeds will tear into faltering Hull

By Keith Macklin

There were signs last weekend that Hull might be feeling the strain, despite confident assertions by the coach, Arthur Bourne, that they are all out for the big title. Oldham got in the first round, with the aid of another major trophy in their lives before going down 24-21 in the Premiership first round and Leeds will be well aware tomorrow that the Hull players have an engagement at Wembley next Saturday.

Hull will be without the New Zealand full back, Kamble, and may also lack the services of his fellow countryman, Leatani, as they face a Leeds side who have staggered the

late run of successes, had him advantage should see Rover through. Hull expect to take more than 25,000 supporters with them to next week's Challenge Cup final, an attempt to boost support for Featherstone Rovers, Hull's opponents from the small West Yorkshire mining town, the Featherstone chairman, Bob Ashby, has appealed to impartial members of the Wembley crowd to get behind Rovers. Since the love of the underdog is still very much alive in Rugby League hearts, his appeal should not go unheeded.

Financial tables including Unit Trust Prices, Exchange Rates, and various market data. The tables are organized into columns with headers for different categories like 'Unit Trust Prices - change on the week', 'Exchange Rates', and 'Financial Data'. Each table contains multiple rows of numerical data and names of companies or funds.



# Mayday call goes out from sinking ships

By Peter Ball  
This year the May Day weekend appears to have replaced Easter as a major staging post in the football calendar, with most of the teams involved in promotion and relegation facing two matches in three days, which will go a long way to determining their eventual fate. It is a time when an unlucky bounce or a debatable decision can undo a season's endeavour, when nerve ends show and the ability to battle is often more important than talent.



McNab: the prodigal returns

Stevenson and Ferguson fit to take their places in a 13-man squad. Sunderland, themselves on the crest of a slump without a win in seven games, make three changes, dropping Worthington and Cooke and losing Hindmarsh to suspension. Rowell, Cummins and Whitfield replace them.

mouth as the club's injury problems grew, and now Jimmy Melia says: "McNab's past differences with the club are forgotten. His attitude has been first class since he came back and I am certain he can do a good job for us."

# Sobering up time in the great TV footballing epic

By Peter Ball  
The meetings between the Football League and the television companies over a new contract for televising football are beginning to turn into an epic. Yesterday's meeting, which lasted over seven hours at the Great Western Hotel, ended with a new proposal, which will be presented to a meeting of Football League club chairmen on Thursday.

in income if they could wear it on television, this could well still prove a crucial objection to the offer. Mr Kelly is writing to the club chairmen with the proposals, so they will have time to digest them before Thursday, and in the meantime he was guarded. "I can't say whether we are optimistic or pessimistic," he said.

# Higgins had the honey but Davis the sting

By Sydney Finklin  
An eventful morning's play ended at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday, with Steve Davis extending his overnight lead over Alex Higgins, the defending champion, to 10-4 in their 31-frame semi-final match of the World Professional Championship, sponsored by Embassy. The day had begun with Davis leading 5-2.



Davis cornered: impatiently waiting for his cue

Knowles began the afternoon with a lead of 5-3 and Thorburn, after a tense battle of attrition, won the first frame in 37 minutes, although Knowles had earlier made a quick break of 31. Thorburn, driving on a break of 37, also won the next frame to level the scores.

# Celtic can gain ground

Championship nerves could play a part in today's premier division programme in Scotland. All three title contenders, Dundee United, Celtic and Aberdeen, travel and expect to be conscious of the need for victory.

# Peace call from Reading camp

Maurice Evans, the Reading manager, has backed calls for a successful demonstration by fans before today's game against Millwall, Reading's first at home since the controversial merger plans with Oxford were revealed.

# Larios leaves again

Jean-Francois Larios, the French midfielder, who left St Etienne to join Atletico Madrid in February, is leaving the Spanish club after only two weeks.

# Family flavour to final

By Paul Newman  
One of the biggest crowds in the nine-year history of the FA Vase is expected for today's final between two West Midlands League clubs, Wolverhampton and VS Rugby.

# King to join Worcestershire

By Richard Streeton  
After the game between MCC and Middlesex was abandoned yesterday without a ball being bowled, the Lord's groundsman, Jim Fairbrother, said that one further heavy shower would put paid to play today in Middlesex's game against Essex.

# Coun ties' warm-up dampened

By Marc Williams  
The fanfares which should accompany the start of the county championship are invariably muted, if not drowned, by the weather. The wettest April on record in many parts of the country means that the 1983 competition, the last to be sponsored by Schweppes, will have a rather damp opening. It recalls a story, one of many in cricket which has been told to me when a county member commented on Trueman's apparent tan in a particularly wet summer. Fred replied: "That's not sunburn, lad, that's rust."

# Staying in Sheffield

It is now certain that the World Professional Championship remains at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, for at least two more years. Agreement was reached yesterday between the management of the theatre and W.P.S.A. (Promotional) the new organization set up by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association. It will be played next year from April 21 to May 7.

# McEnroe plans a grand slam

John McEnroe plans to go for the Grand Slam this year. The winning of the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US titles in the same year has been achieved only by Donald Budge, before the war, and Rod Laver. McEnroe is prepared to try and join the illustrious pair.

# McEnroe plans a grand slam

criticism from Smid about the American's attitude. A curious adoption of calling the Smid and Lewis in the same way, cited to the players or the chair umpire, was the root of the trouble. Unable to understand why the official at the opposite end was calling the decisions, McEnroe halted play in the seventh game of the second set demanding some explanation.

# Feaver bounces back and into final

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent  
John Feaver, who has played four Davis Cup singles for Britain, has always been remarkable for his strong right arm, his bold acrobatics, and his undiminished tenacity. All three qualities are still serving him well, although he had a leg operation in January to remove a ganglion and his thirty-first birthday in February.

# Humphreys in hunt

By Mitchell Platt, Florence  
Warren Humphreys lost the chance of sharing the lead at the halfway stage of the £60,000 Italian Open championship yesterday when he failed to make the cut for the green at the last hole with a wedge. Yet the former English Amateur champion and Walker Cup golfer refused to be frustrated by that unhappy end to his tournament.

# Cotterell rewarded

By Richard Streeton  
Fletcher himself missed his opportunity to stun his eye and leg. He played back to a ball from Cotterell, the left-arm spinner, which never rose from the turf. Cotterell, a product of Downside, who has Surrey connections, was never able to repeat this feat.

# In the pink, out of red

By Ivo Tennant  
A decade ago Surrey were on the verge of bankruptcy. Now their best days are behind them. Everything in sight at the Oval seems to be sponsored, from chocolate-coloured track suits to a 27-streer coach that will ferry youth players on the continent. Alec Bedder would no longer have to turn up for games on the 159 bus.

# Another prize capture

By John Hennessy  
The Women's Professional Golf Association's first prize was captured by the United States as Miss Figueras-Dotti has entered for the Ford tournament at Woburn next week, the richest event of the amateur prize money circuit. The winner receives £20,000.

# Another prize capture

There is much to admire about Anglada. He made a significant improvement last season when, with the support of seven top 10 finishes, he moved up 47 places in the official money list.

# Another prize capture

qualifying competition in January. She had won two tournaments on a professional satellite tour.

# Another prize capture

He did, though, bowl a consistent length, varied his pace, and turned the ball, and was rewarded with all five wickets to fall yesterday.

# Kapil Dev leads strong recovery

By David Haas  
St John's, Antigua (Reuters) - An unfinished five-wicket partnership of 127 between their captain, Kapil Dev, and Ravi Shastri sustained India's recovery in the fifth and final Test against the West Indies yesterday. India extended their overnight 188 for four to 308 for four at lunch on the second day, when Kapil Dev was unbeaten on 79 and Shastri on 54.

# Kapil Dev leads strong recovery

On the opposite side of the ground, the Taverners' end is to have a three-quarter-million renovation which will begin, strangely, halfway through the season. It is to be hoped that it will be well filled for one county match at the Oval last season, only 33 people paid at the gate.

**STAKIS plc**  
are pleased to announce that they have been granted a licence under The Gaming Act 1968 in respect of **STAKIS REGENCY CLUB**  
61-66 Russell Square, London WC1  
Tel: 01-436 9991  
which will open at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 10th May, 1983  
Entrance to the club is permitted only to members and their bona fide guests.  
**STAKIS REGENCY CASINO CLUB**  
61-66 Russell Square, London WC1

**That was the bill that was**  
Johnahannes (Reuters) - The \$6m double world title bill, which was due to be staged in Bophuthatswana next month, appears to be on the verge of collapse.  
The World Boxing Association (WBA) champions were scheduled to defend their titles in an early morning promotion on May 23, which also included a concert by Frank Sinatra. But a broken collarbone suffered in training by the lightweight champion Ray Mancini and the withdrawal of Linara were followed yesterday by the second world champion, the junior-middleweight Davey Moore, threatening to pull out.  
Moore's manager, Leon Washington, said the Southern Sun Hotel chain, promoting the contest, wanted to cut the boxer's purse to \$300,000, of which half would go to him. "That won't do", Mr Washington said.

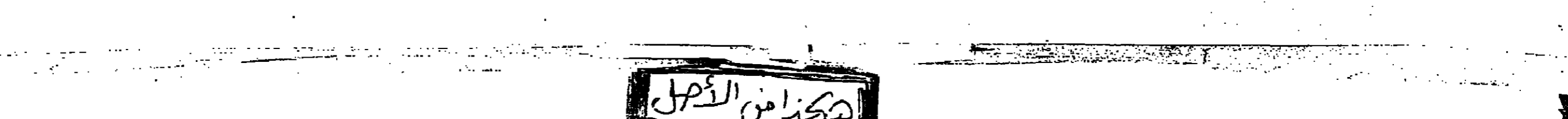
**FOR THE RECORD**  
**BASEBALL**  
NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego Padres 3, Chicago Cubs 1.  
**FOOTBALL**  
RIO DE JANEIRO: Internacional 2, Brazil 3, Chile 2.  
**RACKETS**  
TORONTO: Mervyn Rose beat Steve M Sanchez (Mag) in Shell Open (Final): 15-7, 15-10, 15-12, 15-12, 15-12, 15-12.  
**ICE HOCKEY**  
STANLEY CUP: Boston Bruins 4, New York Islanders 1 (Post-season series 4-1).  
**HOCKEY**  
KARACH: Torpedo won 5-0 vs Dinamo 4.

**GOLF**  
MILTON HEAD ISLANDS Women's tournament: first round (US units): 67-71, Stacy; 66-64, Whitworth; 71-71, Cole; Kathy: 66-72, A. Whitworth.  
**RACING**  
TAUNTON  
5:42: 1. March Fandango (15-2); 2. Getting Perry (5-2); 3. Arco (14-2); 15-15.  
**VOLEYBALL**  
MIM favourites for title again  
Murray International Metals, who have already retained their league title, are favourites to gain their eighth Cup title when they meet Airline in the final of the Royal Bank Cup at Meadowbank, Edinburgh, tomorrow, Paul Harrison writes.  
MIM, embossed by a Scottish team last season, face an Airline team which will be without Barry Robertson, their international, who is suspended. But unfancied Airline did take MIM to five sets in the league earlier this season.  
In the women's final, Telford and Whitburn meet for the third successive year. Telford, who have already won the league, are holders and seek the double for the second year running. Whitburn seem to be doomed to be runners-up in both the league and the Cup, but Bob Stokes, their coach, who has recently resigned as the coach to the national team, has high hopes

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**RUFGY UNION**  
By David Haas  
Waterloo and England flanker, in succession to Mike Davis, Greenwood, aged 41, who won five caps between 1966 and 1969, will have charge of the senior and B squads and will be working with a man with whom he played for England, Budge Rogers, who enters his fifth year as chairman of selectors.  
Greenwood has one more duty to discharge as England Under-23 coach, who goes to Romania on a three-match tour next month. He will be succeeded in that post by another former Cambridge University flanker, Martin Green, whose club rugby was played with Mosley. In a third coaching appointment, Britain's Ashurst, the former Orrell scrum half, who toured Australia with England in 1975, takes charge of the Colts in succession to Glenn Robertson. It was also confirmed that the county championship final will have a permanent home at Twickenham in

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Fixtures for today and tomorrow

Table of football fixtures for today and tomorrow, including First division, Second division, and various leagues like the FA Cup and Football League.

IN MEMORIAM: A notice in memory of a woman who died on April 28, 1983, at the age of 82.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A notice regarding a research fund for cancer patients, mentioning the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND: A notice about the fund's activities and how to contribute.

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Grants at stake on junior finals: A report on the annual search for the country's best young gymnast taking place in Warwick.

YACHTING: A section about the Jeantot supreme yacht race, mentioning Philippe Jeantot's victory.

ICE SKATING: A section about the Wilkie wide open ice skating event, mentioning the participation of international skaters.

GYMNASTICS: A section about the annual search for the country's best young gymnast taking place in Warwick.

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Hunt on for new Roach venue

By Nicholas Timmins
The coroner for the inquest on Colin Roach, the black youth who died of shotgun wounds in the entrance to Stoke Newington police station in January, was yesterday looking for a new place to hold the inquest.



Transport of delight: A recently completed stained glass mural recording the history of the National Union of Railwaymen, being cleaned yesterday at Unity House, the union's new London headquarters, which will be opened on May 3 by Mr Michael Foot. Photograph: John Manning.

600 BL staff volunteer for Maestro overtime

By Clifford Webb
Six hundred track workers at BL's Cowley assembly plant have volunteered to work overtime on Saturday and Sunday to produce urgently needed Maestros. The company lost 19,000 cars, half of them the new Maestros, during the month-long "washing up" strike which ended on Tuesday.

Heath attacks Fleet Street 'disgrace'

Continued from page 1
The statement continued: "In addition, the headlines in the Daily Express and other newspapers attribute to me statements which I have not made and would never consider making."

Churchill denies smear campaign on CND

Continued from page 1
resigned from it when he heard of allegations about the campaigning tactics of the Coalition for Peace through Security.

Letter from Transvaal
Fight for survival
Afrikaner fashion

"I was speaking English just now because I understand we have the London press here", Mr Fanie Botha, the South African Minister of Manpower, said in Louis Trichardt the other night, apologizing for his temporary lapse from Afrikaans to the 400 or so National Party faithful gathered in local school hall.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events
Royal engagements
The Queen opens the National Horseracing Museum at Newmarket, 11.30.

Princess Michael of Kent visits
Colt Car Amberley Horse Show and Country Fair, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire, 12.50.

and South Humberside Artists Society, Usher Gallery, Louth Road, Lincoln, Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5; (from today until May 29).

Gardens open
TOMORROW
Avoch: Three gardens in Grove Road, Coombe Dingle, 4m NW of Bristol; (one charge for the three); 2 to 6; Hillside, 2 acres, five trees and shrubs; Pennington, 2 acres, trees and shrubs; (one charge for the three); The Pennington, 1/2 acre cottage-type garden, Cheshire; Penn, Macclesfield Road, Alderley Edge, off B5087; Alderley Edge to Macclesfield Road; (one charge for the three); (from today until June 4).

Roads
Midlands and East Angles: M1: Southbound lane closures from junction 16 (Northampton) to Rotherthorpe service area; exit from north bound carriageway and access to southbound closed at junction 16. M6: Roadworks between junctions 11 and 10, near Hilton Park services, Wolverhampton. M1/M6: Roadworks at this intersection tomorrow. Many roads closed tomorrow in Wolverhampton city centre for cycle race.

The papers
The Daily Mail says the Prince and Princess of Wales have done "wonderfully well" on their tour of Australia and New Zealand. "They can now go off on their well-earned holiday assured that they have performed a great mission of good will among our Antipodean cousins and that they have proved royal in the best sense of the word; they have not only been dignified and gracious but human as well."

Anniversaries
Births: Mary II, Queen of England (reigned 1689-94), London, 1662; David Thompson, explorer, London, 1770; Carl Friedrich Gauss, mathematician, Brunswick, Germany, 1777; Deaths: Edward Manet, Paris, 1883; A. E. Housman, Cambridge, 1936.

In the garden
When the soil dries up sufficiently and warms up a bit more, grass seed for new lawns, or to cover bare patches, it often happens that there are thin areas of grass where perhaps weeds or moss have been eradicated. An oversowing of, say, 1oz of grass seed to the square yard would do a lot of good. Also when the weather eventually warms up, apply selective weedkillers to lawns; they work much better in warm weather.

National Day
The Dutch today celebrate the official birthday of Queen Beatrix. It is in fact the real birthday of her mother, Queen Juliana, who was born on April 30, 1909; it is also the day on which Queen Beatrix succeeded to the throne on the abdication of her mother three years ago.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,111
A 10x10 crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,116
A 10x10 crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,117
A 10x10 crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

ACROSS
1 Homer's journeys, perhaps (5,5).
6 It would be crazy to back such an attempt (4).
9 Decorate pubs with lots of discrimination (6,4).

DOWN
1 Strong current in the channel (4).
2 Threatening like this isn't fair (4).
3 Attempt to penalize first bidder more - he's dishonest (6-6).

ACROSS
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
A crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares.

DOWN
17 Admit everything with a pained expression (5).
18 Choice of three hat characters for her (5).
19 Theorist loses head and becomes swindler (9).

ACROSS
24 This jug good enough for Punch? (4).
25 Unimportant round for a clergyman (5,5).
26 Career as viewed by film editor (4).
27 Second in one man's acts for wise Greeks (5,5).

DOWN
22 Athenian joiner takes up arms (4).
23 Successful party, say, where drinkers gather (4).

Weather
A depression over the North Sea will move away NE, and another depression over Biscay will move towards SE England.
6 am to midnight
London, SE, central S England, East Angles, E Midlands, SE Ireland: Mist or fog patches soon clearing, sunny periods, showers, becoming cloudy with more persistent rain later; wind variable, becoming E light max temp 15 to 16 (5 to 6P).

High and lowest
Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; m, rain.
London
Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 14C (57F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 8C (46F); humidity 7 pm, 65 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 7 pm, 0.16 in. Wind: 24hr to 7 pm, 7.5 mph; mean sea level, 7 pm, 1013.8 millibars, steady, 1,000 millibars = 29.92 in.

High tides
TODAY
London Bridge 4.35 7.2 4.55 7.1
Aberdeen 4.10 6.15 4.0 6.15
Aberystwyth 4.10 6.15 4.0 6.15

Around Britain
Sun Jan May
IV C F
St Andrews 1.9 3.5 4.8 6.4
Bristol 1.9 3.5 4.8 6.4

The pound
Bank Bank
Australia \$ 1.87 1.78
Austria Sch 28.40 26.60
Belgium Fr 79.25 75.25

Abroad
Algeria 4 10 F
Algeria 4 10 F
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Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.